



TOMORROW

Bloodstained roads Diana Geddes joins the French CRS police on a tour of duty in Spectrum

Iran threat to Gulf oil exports

Iran's Foreign Minister said that any attempt to paralyse Iran's oil exports would be answered by Iran blocking oil exports from the Gulf countries.

Doubt over murder link

Police investigating the murder of Caroline Hogg, aged 5, and Susan Maxwell, aged 11, now believe that there may be no connection between the two killings.

Cliff deaths

Two Merseyside youths died after jumping a wall and falling from a 100ft cliff at Towan beach in Newquay, Cornwall, while fleeing from a gang of Scotsmen.

FINANCIAL TIMES

Mr William Keys, chairman of the TUC's print committee, said that even if the NGA was suspended over the Financial Times dispute, it would not help to break the strike.

Plea to stay

Mr. Justice Goff, a Turkish judge, has asked the British High Court to allow a stay of proceedings against a Turkish woman accused of murdering her husband's whereabouts.

Unlucky 13

France last night lost its unbeaten record in the European bridge championships at Wiesbaden after Romania, thirteenth round opponents, successfully challenged an examination of the French team's bidding to win 12-8.

Shipyard losses

Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman of British Shipbuilders, which is expected to announce £70m to £100m losses for 1982-83, is likely to suggest a survival package costing £200m and 8,500 jobs.

UK steel plea

Britain will today demand a bigger steel production quota from the EEC, on the ground that its steel industry has made significant improvements in competitiveness.

Legal 'lottery'

Motorists take a cynical view of traffic laws regarding them as a punitive lottery, but generally respect the attitudes of police towards offenders on the road, researchers have found.

Overt out

Steve Overt's chances of being selected for the two events at the athletics world championships receded when he was spiked during an 800 metres race at Crystal Palace and forced to drop out with cramp.

Letters on Army discipline

Letters on Army discipline, from Mr B. Vincent, note clipping, from Mr E. H. B. Neame, and others; prisoners' rights, from Mr L. Blom-Cooper, QC.

Leading articles: Liberal/SDP alliance; Sino-Soviet relations

South Africa: a spot of trouble with the neighbours; Roy Hattersley's views on where Labour should be going; Ronald Reagan's dangerous central American policy; Spectrum: Jagger at 40; Modern Times: the answerphone people.

Obituary, page 14

Sir Clement Chesterton, Mr Patrick Swift.

Dole benefits may be kept below cost of living

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

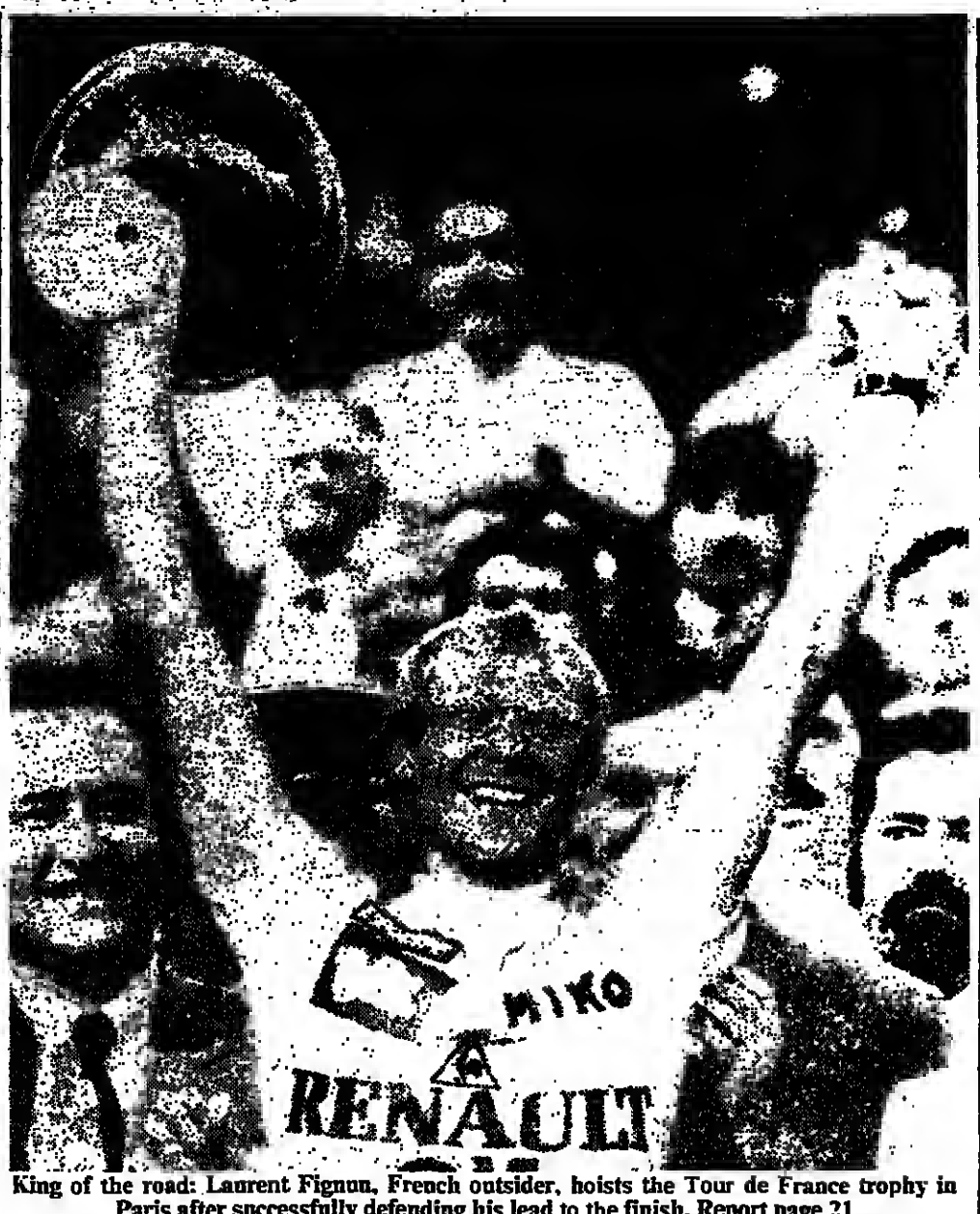
Apprehension was growing yesterday among middle-ranking ministers and Conservative backbenchers, three days after the Cabinet's first consideration of the outlook for public expenditure next year that the bargaining between Treasury and spending ministers, which is yet to begin, may become awkward and angry by the autumn.

In particular, fears that Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, will come under pressure to keep next year's increase in unemployment benefit below the rise in the cost of living have prepared the Conservative backbench social security lobby for mobilisation.

Council spending is well above target

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Figures to be presented to a meeting today of councillors and ministers will show that by the end of the financial year 1984-85, council spending in England could be £1.8bn in excess of the government's plans. Council officials are saying openly that the plan set out in the last public expenditure White Paper and reaffirmed by the Cabinet on Thursday is "wholly unattainable".



King of the road: Laurent Fignon, French outsider, hoists the Tour de France trophy in Paris after successfully defending his lead to the finish. Report page 21

Lawson to reveal asset sales

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Details of the Government's proposed £500m additional asset sales announced earlier this month are expected to be revealed today when Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, replies to a question in Parliament.

World alert over Armenian revenge

By Richard Evans

A worldwide security alert has been ordered at all British diplomatic missions after the jailing of an Armenian for firearms offences at the Central Criminal Court on Saturday.

Shore criticizes failure to move with times

By Our Political Editor

An appeal to the Labour Party to develop its policies to increase its appeal to office as well as factory workers - to the "new earning classes" which Labour had helped to create - was made last night by Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Chancellor.

Heatwave in US kills 120

From Our Own Correspondent, New York

More than 120 people have died in the heatwave affecting many parts of the United States. A state of emergency has been declared in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, where people are being urged to use 70 air-conditioned "cooling off" centres.

Labour must reach 'new society'

By Our Political Editor

Mr. Peter Shore spoke of the disastrous general election result, which left Labour with only 29 of the 260 parliamentary seats south of a line between the Wash and the Severn, against 103 held in 1966.

Soup kitchen queues lengthen in US

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

At a time when American farmers are growing so much food that the Government pays them to let fields lie fallow, it is reported that many Americans are going hungry.

Gemayel facing challenge from 'Salvation Front'

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

President Gemayel of Lebanon will return to his country from Washington in the next two days to find that it has been further torn apart, this time by Syria's latest efforts to challenge the legitimacy of his Government.

The three leading Lebanese politicians opposed to Mr Gemayel have been encouraged by Damascus to form a "National Salvation Front" which is clearly designed to provide an alternative administration in Lebanon if the country is partitioned.

Meanwhile, ceasefires broke down in the battles between the Druze and Christian Maronite militiamen in the Israeli-occupied Chouf mountains and between rival Palestinian guerrilla groups in the Syrian-occupied Bekaa valley.

Throughout Saturday night the miniature civil war in the hills above Beirut went on with the Israelis making precious little effort to stop it.

By last night at least two Palestinian guerrillas loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat's leadership, together with a Lebanese woman, were killed by Syrian forces, with Syrian encouragement, attacked two pro-Arafat military bases north of the town of Chitaura.

The announcement of a National Salvation Front was made in the Syrian-held city of Baalbek by Mr Walid Jumblat, the Druze leader, who at the same time admitted that his men had been responsible for firing missiles at Beirut airport last week.

While it is not yet claiming to be a rival government, the new alliance - which includes former President Franjich and Mr Rashid Karami who was Prime Minister here during the civil war - is none-the-less meant to be a weapon of coercion against President Gemayel's authority.

Floods close new Selby pit 'possibly for months'

Wistow Colliery, the show-piece of British mining, which opened only four weeks ago at the Selby coalfield, North Yorkshire, is to be out of action for "weeks, and possibly months" after weekend flooding.

As water continued to seep into the pit, the National Coal Board confirmed that coal production would be halted, at a cost of £600,000 a week.

A spokesman said that the opening of the second set of 20 faces, scheduled for three to four months time as part of the total £1,000m project, could be delayed. "There may have to be some rethinking on this following the flooding," he said.

As a major investigation got under way and emergency pumping continued, the NCB were trying last night to work out how the water got through 250 ft of rock and stone to the coal face.

Are You A Bore?

A FAMOUS author and educationalist reveals that there is a simple technique of everyday conversation which can pay you real dividends in both social and professional advancement.

It works like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence, and greater popularity. The details of this method are described in his fascinating book, "Adventures in Speaking and Writing," sent free on request.

According to this author, many people do not realise how much they could influence others simply by what they say and how they say it. Those who realise this radiate enthusiasm, hold the attention of their listeners with bright, sparkling conversation that attracts friends and opportunities wherever they go.

To acquaint all readers with the easy-to-follow rules for developing skill in everyday conversation and writing, we, the publishers, have printed full details of this interesting self-training method in a 24-page book which will be sent free to anyone who requests it.

No obligation. Simply fill in and return the coupon on page 9 (no need to stamp your envelope), or write to: Effective Speaking Programme, (Dept. TSS3), FREEPOST, Bowden Hall, Marple, Stockport.

Table with 2 columns: News, Sports, etc. and 2 columns: Crossword, Diary, etc.

TUC poised to agree on talks with Tebbit about political levy

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Despite strong left-wing opposition, leaders of the TUC are this week poised to accept an olive branch from Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, and start talks with the Government on union democracy.

The thaw in the relationship will be heralded today when the TUC's employment policy and organization committee looks likely to endorse a paper calling for talks on unions' political levy.

Leaders of the Labour movement will want to make sure, however, that the talks are strictly defined and do not again descend into the "dialogue of the deaf".

The employment committee's decision will be recommended to the general council on Wednesday, but the talks are unlikely to take place until after the TUC's congress in September, which will be asked to agree to the plan.

Mr Tebbit's feelings on the subject of the political levy have moderated recently. Initially the idea was that union members should actively "contract in" to

paying towards the Labour Party, rather than seek means - allegedly sometimes complicated - to "contract out".

In a recent White Paper, Mr Tebbit has hinted that he would be prepared to discuss the matter with union leaders, an invitation he subsequently repeated in public.

The "hawkish" Mr Tebbit has been in a dilemma on the issue. If the system was changed to "contracting-in" he would probably achieve the hardliners' ambition of severing the party's financial jugular vein.

But he has been advised that he could let in the potentially dangerous Alliance by default, start an outcry about the business sources of the Conservative Party's cash and cause a campaign for the state funding of political parties.

The crucial vote today for talks by the 22 members of the committee would follow a "deep freeze" in the relationship between Mr Tebbit and union leaders since January when the same group decided there was no point in talking to



High flyer: Mr Ron Mitcham and his race-winning Topsy Nipper. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

'Flying overcoat' wins race

A tiny aircraft powered by an 1800cc Volkswagen car engine yesterday won the Heineken Round London Air Race.

Its pilot, Mr Ron Mitcham, aged 37, a builder of Thorpe Road, St Albans, completed the 126-mile course in 1hr 20mins to take the £1,000 first prize.

His home-built Topsy Nipper, described by race officials at Wycombe Air Park, Buckinghamshire, as more an overcoat than an aeroplane, was the smallest entry at 14ft long, with a wingspan of 19ft.

Mr Mitcham said: "I almost pulled out at the last minute because of a heavy shower at the start".

A two-mile queue of traffic built up outside Greenham Common air base yesterday as thousands turned out for the last day of the air display there.

Keys lays down terms for help in bringing out FT

By Our Labour Reporter

Mr William Keys, chairman of the TUC's print committee, yesterday set out the conditions under which his union would "consider" helping to publish the strike-bound Financial Times.

If the National Graphical Association, which simply suspended this week from the TUC, Mr Keys, general secretary of Sogat 82, would refuse to cooperate in any management plan to break the eight-week strike.

But Mr Keys told *The Times* yesterday, he would be prepared to consider the scheme if the TUC accompanied its suspension of the NGA with advice that other unions should consider plans for republication because of the threat to employment.

He pointed out, however, that any such consideration would have to take into account the implied threat from many NGA activists that they would "close Fleet Street" if rival unions cooperated.

The "inner cabinet" of the TUC, the finance and general purposes committee, meets today to consider the NGA's defiance of the call for return to work by Mr Len Murray, who underwrote mediation.

The committee has the power to recommend a course of action to the TUC General Council which meets on Wednesday.

Despite pressure from the company, which considers Mr Murray's reputation to be at stake, the committee will receive advice that a suspension may prove to be "harsh".

It is thought unlikely by some observers that the general council will outlaw the NGA, still less encourage other unions to break the strike.

A more likely course, it is felt, is that today's meeting will advise the initiation of new discussions.

The *Financial Times* has been planning to republish the 60,000 copies of the Frankfurt edition with the help of the National Union of Journalists.

The reaction of the chapel (union branch) will be tested after the present talks at the TUC. But national leaders said yesterday that they could not envisage any practical circumstances under which the edition would be republished.

The newspaper's management has been considering plans to produce the whole print run in Germany and fly it to Britain to be distributed by Sogat.

Turkish mother who lied hopes to stay

By Alan Hamilton

A Turkish mother of four children who entered Britain illegally eight years ago said yesterday that she hoped to be allowed to stay, in spite of her admission that she lied to Home Office immigration officials about the whereabouts of her husband.

Mrs Gulben Sezer, who lives with her children, aged between six and 15, in Camden, north London, told *The Times* yesterday that she knew all along that her husband had returned to Britain after being deported as an illegal immigrant in 1981, although she denied that he had lived with her since his return.

When threatened with deportation herself earlier this month, she insisted to the immigration authorities that she had not seen her husband since his deportation.

Mr Selcuk Sezer, who was found by police after an anonymous tip-off working in a north London restaurant, was sent home to Turkey on Saturday.

"How could I tell the truth? My husband was here illegally, either I had to shop him or keep quiet", Mrs Sezer said. "I want to remain in this country, and educate my children here".

Mrs Sezer recently contested a Home Office deportation order on the ground of compassion for her children; she claimed that her husband was a violent man, that they had not lived together since his illegal return, and that she had started



Mrs Sezer, denied having seen her husband.

Europeans reject UK TV system

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

The British campaign to have its method of broadcasting television by satellite adopted as a European standard has failed. France and West Germany have rejected the C-MAC system developed by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which the BBC plans to use for direct broadcasting from the £350m Unisat satellite, due for launch in 1986.

Mr Christian Schwartz-Schilling, the German Minister for Posts and telecommunications, came out against C-MAC at a recent meeting in Bonn with Mr Louis Mexandeau, his French opposite number. France's opposition was well known, but British government and industry representatives had hoped to win over Germany.

The technical committee of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) recommended a standard based on C-MAC but France blocked its adoption by the full EBU. Almost everyone agrees that the IRA system would give excellent sound and picture quality - better than the PAL and SECAM systems now used for terrestrial TV broadcasting in Europe.

All existing television sets would have to be adapted for C-MAC. The French are prepared to sacrifice technical quality for a cheaper satellite standard based on PAL and SECAM, which are products of 1960s technology.

Although EBU technical staff will continue searching for a common European standard, the prospects of agreeing on an acceptable compromise are small. If there is no agreement, the present problem of viewing across frontiers with different colour systems will be repeated when direct satellite broadcasting becomes widespread.

The failure to agree on C-MAC as a European standard is also bad news for British manufacturers of broadcasting equipment.

EEC decides cost of Britain's puddings

By Patricia Clough

An emergency meeting of bureaucrats from the 10 EEC countries in Brussels today will decide the cost of Christmas puddings in Britain next Christmas.

They are to debate what to do about a levy on non-EEC sultanas and raisins which could turn a 50p Christmas pudding into a 55p one, and put up the price of fruit cake, mince and some biscuits. Insiders predict they will prolong the levy for another year at least.

The temporary levy was imposed last October, too late to affect last year's Christmas dinner, to protect the sultana producers of Greece, who had just entered the Community. On the face of it, this would seem a problem since Greece's entry also promptly landed the Community with another mountain, a 60,000-ton sultana mountain.

Many were sultanas which would normally have been exported to the Soviet Union and other eastern European countries which, struggling with their own economic crisis, could not afford them. But the farmers were also turning out more dried grapes to gain the notorious benefits of the EEC's agriculture supports.

But the British, who eat 115,000 tons of sultanas, raisins and currants a year - more than all the other 220 million Community inhabitants put together - turned up their noses at them.

Greek farmers, an expert in the trade explained, dry their grapes on their tiny plots in over-intimate proximity to goals and a other farm animals. Cleaning and inspection leave much to be desired, so importers have to treat them again in Britain. "No food manufacturer is going to gamble with health standards in these circumstances", Bob Widdowson, the organization's director says in *Housing Aid Facts and Figures*, published today.

Mr Widdowson adds that families are told they are not being given help because they are judged either not to be in priority need or to have made themselves intentionally homeless.

Checks on electricity costs urged

By Jonathan Davis

Some electricity boards appear markedly more successful than others in cutting costs and improving costs and improving efficiency, a report out today from the Electricity Consumers' Council says.

The administrative cost of supplying a unit of electricity in the Midlands Electricity Board area rose by 28.9 per cent in real terms in the seven years to April 1982. Yet during the same period the Eastern Electricity Board cut its administrative costs by 37.7 per cent in real terms.

The number of employees per 1000 consumers fell by 28.6 per cent in the South-Western area, while the cut in London and the North-West was only between 12 and 13 per cent. The council avoids saying the variations necessarily reflect degrees of efficiency.

Low paid 'need bill of rights'

By Our Labour Reporter

A new "bill of rights" is needed to protect the weakest workers, the Low Pay Unit says in a report published today. The Conservative Government has stopped long-standing legal procedures which guard the lowest paid against unscrupulous employers, the unit says.

Many workers in small firms have to wait two years before they can gain any protection against unfair dismissal.

The report declares that a bill of rights for the low paid should include an automatic entitlement to protection from unfair dismissal without the need for a minimum length of service; a right for workers to get their jobs back when a tribunal finds they have been unfairly dismissed; a new legal procedure for union recognition; better minimum standards for redundancy and a minimum wage.

Ambitious dogsbodies who could reach the Cabinet

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Parliament is a month old and already a carefully chosen group of Conservative MPs have stepped on the first rung of a ladder of opportunity which could one day take them right up to the Cabinet.

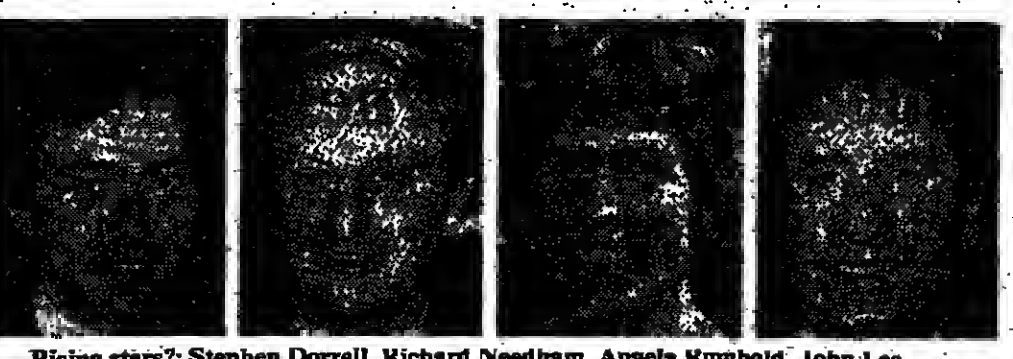
These are the parliamentary private secretaries, the men and women ministers appoint to assist them in their duties in the Commons, keep them informed of opinions on the backbenches, humour them, run errands, serve drinks.

The PPS, according to one MP who has just relinquished the post, is at best an aide-camp and at worst a dogsbody. He caters to his master's needs as a parliamentarian and party politician in the way that private secretaries look after him in his ministerial capacity.

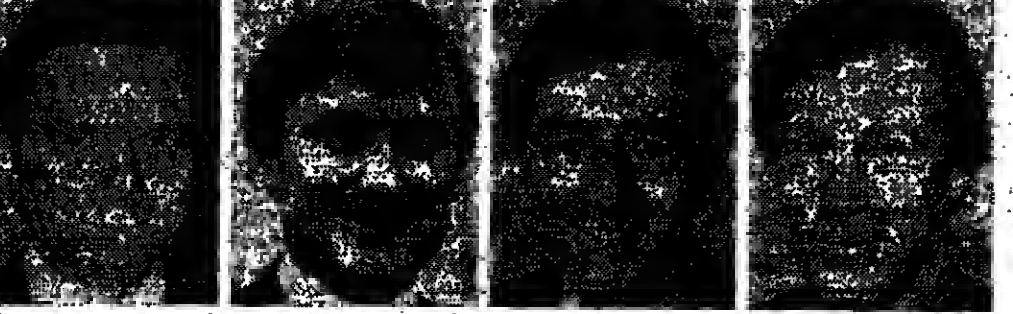
But whatever their misgivings, when the offer comes no MP who wants to get on can afford to refuse it. It can be a passport to nowhere and the sacrifice of independence can be great, but a failure to take the post would signify to the people who matter a lack of ambition, the MP concerned would normally not get a second chance.

The people who matter are the whips and the Prime Minister, who can exercise a veto on the appointments. The whips are the talent scouts and are credited with enormous powers of patronage by the MPs.

The Conservative whips keep a list of the MPs who have impressed with their performance in the Commons chamber, or in committee, with their diligence, their attendance and voting record. This names are at the disposal of ministers, who usually express personal preferences.



Rising stars?: Stephen Dorrell, Richard Needham, Angela Rumbold, John Lee...



... Mark Lennox-Boyd, Peter Lloyd, Peter Bottomley, Keith Hampson.

Shore calls for wider appeal

Continued from page 1

universal, income-related pensions, and it was an extraordinary omission from its policies that it had virtually nothing to say about the major grievances of those with occupational pensions which could not be transferred when jobs were changed or were not insured.

"It is a fact that the nation was far less heavily taxed under the 1974-79 Labour Government than it has been since," Mr Shore added. "Yet here again the message has not got home."

The argument among the leadership contestants about widening the franchise to all party members, which led to angry words last week between Mr Michael Foot and Mr Roy Hattersley, continued yesterday on radio.

Mr Neil Kinnock said on the BBC's *World At One* that the impression had been given that, until the party's 1983 congress, one vote would be given to every member, the election of leader and deputy leader could not be considered democratic - which plainly was not the case.

He said that on this question he himself had "a rather longer record than most other people", as in December 1980 he moved in the National Executive Committee that Labour should require local party management committees to "lay down procedures to enable individual members to express their preferences".

Asked about the "dream ticket" under which he and Mr Hattersley would work together as leader and deputy, Mr Kinnock said the phrase was invented by journalists who were over-destroying it.

There was never a dream ticket, but he repeated he could work with anyone who would give priority to securing a Labour victory.

IRA bombs 'wrong building'

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Police in Northern Ireland denied yesterday that they had intended using a hotel bombed by the Provisional IRA as temporary accommodation while a joint Army-police base is repaired.

Four bombs planted by masked men caused extensive damage to the Lakes Hotel in Belfast on Saturday night and afterwards an IRA statement said they bombed it because the hotel had learnt it was to be used by the security forces. The hotel has been up for sale and is frequently used by Provisional Sinn Fein for press conferences.

In May a van bomb exploded 500 yards away outside Andersonstown army-police base, but police said it was niter rubbish that they had planned to use the hotel.

The IRA has denied reports that 12 Belfast men have fled south for fear of being named by Mr David Mackie aged 44, the IRA's "punishment" for shooting two years ago who is now understood to be in police protective custody.

Technicians to strike at ITV

More than 1,500 freelance ITV technicians have been instructed to strike from next weekend over pay and conditions. The stoppage, by members of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) could eventually cause blank screens.

In an unrelated dispute yesterday, ITV's *Morning Watch* was not screened because of a salary dispute involving six ACTT engineers.

Poison alert

The police have warned sunbathers on the Devon coast between Torbay and Lymington not to touch potentially lethal canisters of poisonous calcium phosphide which have been washed up on beaches.

Rock on rates

Rock music workshops are being held throughout South Yorkshire by the Labour-controlled county council to prevent boredom and frustration among the unemployed. The "rock-on-the-rates scheme" is part of a £100,000 project.

Irish visitor

Mr Peter Barry, the Irish Foreign Minister, begins a three-day trip to Britain today. He will be visiting Liverpool, Birmingham and London, where he will meet Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr James Prior to discuss Anglo-Irish relations.

Right of access

People should have a legal right of access on foot to all open country and common land, the Ramblers' Association urges in a report, which says the natural beauty of uplands and open country is being eroded.

Diesel jobs cut

A further 190 workers have volunteered for redundancy at the Perkins diesel engine company at Peterborough, bringing the number of jobs lost in the past two years to 1,700.

CHRISTIE'S
ESTD 1769

Christie's St. James's

8 King Street, London SW1

This week's sales:

27th at 10.30 a.m. Fine Jewels
28th at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. End of Season Fine Wines

Information on these sales on:
(01) 839 9060 / 930 8870

Christie's St. James's Autumn Season 1983 will begin on 21 September with a sale of Modern Sporting Guns and Vintage Firearms.

For details of sales at Christie's South Kensington, please contact: 85 Old Brompton Road, London S.W.7. Tel: (01) 581 2231 / 3679

سكنى الامم

uths
cliff p
while f
disco

secret
pped a t

Contest

17 youths killed in cliff plunge while fleeing disco gang

From Our Correspondent, Bodmin

Teenagers died when 17 of them fell from a cliff top on to a beach early yesterday morning when a gang of 17 youths fled from a disco. Another youth had broken by a tree and was not safe.

Three had vaulted a 4ft wall expecting that it led them to a path of safety. The group of eight chasing them from a ledge and also a fourth. But the wall was only 4ft high and the youths fell from the edge of the cliff over-looking the beach in Newquay.

Frazer Heral, aged 21, was the first to leap the wall. He landed in a thick shrub and fell backwards from the cliff. The two following him hit the wall. Miles Thomas, 17, and David Stevens, 17, vaulted further, out of the shrub and crashed to the beach.

A fourth youth, Michael, aged 18, managed to vault with his hands on the wall. He fell on to the beach and was not hurt.

Four came from Mersey and were on a camping site on the outskirts of Newquay. Miles Thomas died. David Stevens also lived in Laughton. Roby, died two hours in hospital in Truro.

Heral, of Courthouse Bowling Park, Haytor, was killed to safety. He said as the Scots got over the wall they were shouting. They were obviously shaken. They could see what had happened. Then some of them went down to the beach to see what they could do down there.

After that, the Scots believed to be on holiday from the Glasgow area, all vanished, and last night Det Chief Supt John Bisset, head of Devon and Cornwall CID, said: "We are most anxious to trace them. We know there was no physical violence involved at any stage, so we are appealing to the Scots to come forward."

The chase started soon after the late night discotheques in Newquay had shut. Mr Herald said: "We were just walking and not expecting any trouble. The Scots started shouting, and running towards us, and we started to run as well. I was terrified."

The four youths ran past a bowling green and along a path near the cliff top until it turned a right angle. It was there that they decided to vault the wall, believing that they would land in the grounds of a hotel.

Mr Herald said: "The Scots had almost caught up with us, and we thought that over the wall was our best chance of getting away from them. I went over first, and I knew immediately there was nothing there except the hush. I grabbed a branch with both hands, and then I saw Miles come over. I saw his white shirt and tried to hold on to it. It tore, and he went. David came over almost on top of him. Both of them had jumped too far out to have any chance of grabbing on to the hush."

A passing motorist, alarmed by the shouts, called the police. The only clues to the Scots were their footprints on the beach.

Less than 24 hours after three children were left orphans when their parents were killed in a crash with a lorry on the A420 in Oxfordshire, two members of another family died in an accident 20 miles away on the same road.

Mr Malcolm Dickinson, aged 49, and his daughter Karen, aged 18, died when their car apparently hit a kerb and rolled over several times at Cumnor, near Oxford, early yesterday.



Heral: shrub stopped his fall.

Armenian arms case

How secret services trapped a terrorist

By Richard Evans

July a brilliant undercover operation started by MI5, followed by the Special Branch, and completed by third Yard's anti-terrorist squad, prevented Zaven Bedros, a terrorist attack in London.

He recently recruited but a member of the Secret Service for the Liberation of Armenia, flew into Heathrow port from Damascus on August 31, last year.

It was his first mission for the terrorist underground organisation which has killed 51 people, mostly senior Turkish diplomats, in an eight-year campaign to avenge the massacre of 1,500,000 Armenians by Ottoman Turks in 1915.

Bedros, aged 32, slipped through the airport's Terminal 1 immigration officials. He was a commercial salesman, in England to buy parts for Land-Rovers. A few hours after his arrival his secret service network, often criticised, had already strated the Armenian network.

"It was a brilliant piece of work," one senior police officer said. "It is often said what a few of our secret service vice people are," he added. "It is a classic case of how active they have been."

Bedros, a Syrian-born ironmonger, was planning, so he said at his trial, a commando occupation of the Turkish Embassy. Four Secret Army Brigades, he claimed, were ready in Britain, and he was to lead the assault on the Belgrave Square target. If necessary, he is prepared to kill or die, "I am a suicide man", he told police.

An armed team of 20 officers from the Special Branch and the anti-terrorist squad, moved in to track his movements.

While the Special Branch officers were involved with surveillance, the anti-terrorist squad was ready to arrest Bedros.

Its officers did not have to wait long. During the early evening of September 9 Bedros was sitting idly on a car bonnet outside his hotel in Bayswater when he was summoned by a member of the hotel staff to take a telephone call. It was the message he had been waiting for.

Two hours later Bedros was seen walking back to his hotel, carrying an innocent-looking plastic shopping bag. But inside were the weapons he had been waiting for.

Bedros quickly took his armoury to his hotel room and then emerged on to the street. Armed police officers moved in. Bedros ran but was quickly captured with a flying tackle by Det Chief Insp Hilton Cole.

In his hotel room the police found Soviet Fl anti-personnel fragmentation grenade and ignition set, a 7.62mm self-loading pistol, and 16 rounds of ammunition.

A disappointed Bedros later told detectives his arrest came four days before the embassy siege was due to take place.

An Armenian national council, to speak for the three million Armenians scattered across five continents was established yesterday by the second Armenian World Congress in Lausanne. Alan McGregor writes.

BBC contest criticized

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Teachers at some of Britain's leading music colleges have accused the BBC of being "highly irresponsible" in staging the Cardiff Singer of the World competition, the final of which was televised last night.

In a letter to BBC Wales from Professor Lyndon van der Pamp, of the Royal College of Music on behalf of the head of singing at the Royal Academy, he expressed "profound disquiet" at the venture, which the BBC described as being open to singers of a minimum age of 18 on the threshold of their professional careers.

The letter, also signed by six other eminent musicians, claimed that singers aged 18 were not on the threshold of their careers and should not be exposed to the stresses and publicity that such a competition demanded.

But Mr Geraint Stanley Jones, controller of BBC Wales, said: "I believe they misunderstood the purpose of the competition which was to give an opportunity to singers who felt they needed it to compete at a high level."

The final of the competition, held at St David's Hall, was won by Karita Mattila, aged 23, of Finland.

One of the judges, Sir Geraint Evans, was adamant that the competition was a success.

He said: "There is nothing wrong in the competition. The danger lies in the exploitation that can follow."

A body of influential musicians is now formulating strong protests about the increasing number of music competitions.

Irish drinkers swallow massive price rise

Irish drinkers in the Republic are seen to stagger today, the likeliest explanation is not the alcohol but the stiffest ever tax on drink that comes into effect today.

An extra two pence tax on a pint of Guinness is the seventh price increase in seven months and beer prices - up by 30 per cent in the period - are now among the highest in Europe.

The humble pint will now cost IRE1.09 in the cheapest of city bars, IRE1.20 (96p sterling) in the more plush lounges and as much as IRE1.55 (£1.27 sterling) in top grade hotels.

The increase, imposed in last week's Budget, means that tax now takes 58 per cent of the cost of a pint of Guinness, the highest tax level in the European Community.

Dubliners, as ever, are stoical about the imposition and have now come to look on rises as something inevitable and pre-ordained. This week-end they packed the city's bars, enjoying their final "pint of plain", as Guinness is known, at the old prices.

Brewers and distillers expect the increase to depress sales; spirits sales have taken a knock already from earlier rises and are showing a 20 per cent fall.

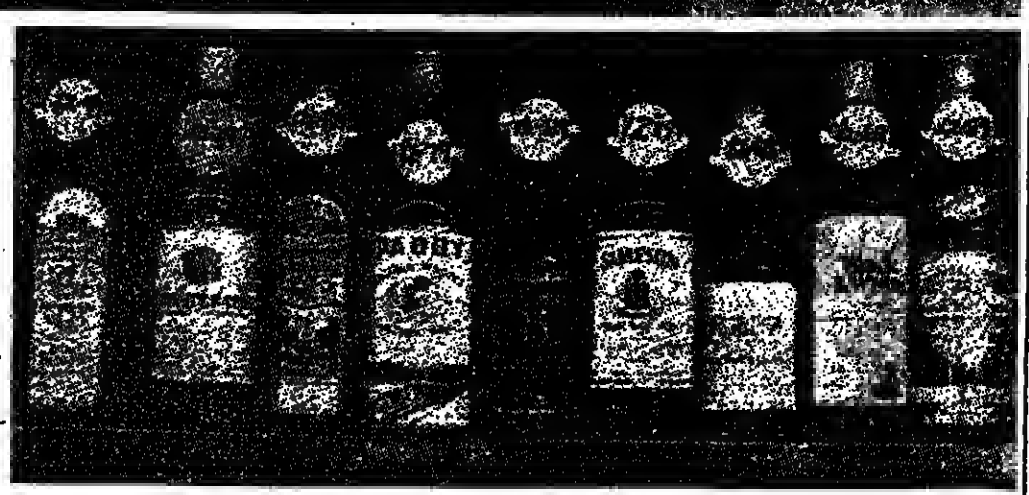
One Dublin barman, though, is welcoming the rise. Mr Tommy Cusack, owner of one of Dublin's most popular city centre public houses, Mulligans in Poolbeg Street, reckons it will make his work easier.

"It will stop the extra pennies lying around on my counter", he said. "You see, a pint of Guinness cost one pound and nine pence, and customers just didn't bother to pick up the extra penny in their change."

The locals are taking the rise philosophically, tourists are not. One British visitor, Mr Kevin Lyons from Blandford in Dorset, said: "I think these prices are outrageous. In my home town I can get a good pint of bitter for sixty five pence."

Indeed, Ireland's cost of living in general has left tourists in chaos. The Republic's exchequer is losing an estimated £200m annually as Southerners travel to Northern Ireland to shop there.

The main reason for the Republic's high taxes is a massive foreign borrowing debt. With the Finance Minister, Mr Alan Dukes, pursuing a strict policy to check Government spending and borrowing, little relief appears in sight for the hard-pressed drinker.



Prices up but beer still goes down. Building workers (top) drinking at a Dublin public house. But Irish whiskey on an off-licence shelf is dearer than Scotch.

Gypsy site 'test case' opens today

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Department of the Environment is being taken to court today in an attempt to force it to act to ease the plight of 200 gypsies living on a site near central London, generally agreed to be unfit for habitation.

The High Court action, being taken by Mr Martin Ward, a resident on the Westway site in north Kensington, is being seen as a test case for the interpretation of the Caravan Sites Act of 1968, in particular the issue of whether ministers can be forced by court order to compel local authorities to provide gypsy sites if they have not been exempted.

The gypsies at Westway, which has been at the centre of a complicated legal battle for several years, face the prospect of eviction from the site or of having all mains services cut off, forcing them to leave. Their lawyers believe that the environment department is now considering seeking legal immunity from further public health prosecutions until lead pollution has been cleared up.

The two London boroughs responsible, Hammersmith and Kensington, both Conservative-controlled, were only prevented by an injunction last month from handing the site back to the Labour-controlled Greater London Council when the lease expired. Although it owns the land, the GLC says it is prevented by law from running sites for gypsies.

Hammersmith and Kensington dispute that, say the utilities would not cut off services if they abandoned the site and claim they can find nowhere else for the gypsies to live.

Doubts on link in killing of girls

Police are now less certain that there is a link between the murders of Caroline Hogg, aged five, and Susan Maxwell, aged 11.

Mr Hector Clark, assistant chief constable of Northumbria, who is leading the inquiry into both deaths, said: "There are similarities but there are significant differences between the two cases."

Meanwhile, Interpol has traced Herr Fritz Witte, a West German tourist who stayed in a Portobello boarding house on the night Caroline Hogg, from Edinburgh, disappeared.

Detectives will fly out within the next few days to interview Herr Witte, who was found at his home in Witten, near Dortmund, only hours after his description was issued by the police.

Det Chief Supt Brian Cunningham said: "It is known that he spent three nights, including July 8 at the boarding house. He is one of the few people we have so far failed to interview."

He emphasized that at this stage the police simply wanted to eliminate Herr Witte from their inquiries.

On Saturday police had appealed for a man who was seen in Portobello on the evening of July 8.

Asked about the similarities between Herr Witte's description and the man seen in Portobello, Mr Cunningham said: "We are not saying this is the man who was seen."

Of the deaths of the two schoolgirls, Mr Clark said: "It may well be we are looking for two different people."

Boy has typhoid

A schoolboy suffering from typhoid was making satisfactory progress yesterday in a Northampton hospital. Doctors believe his case is an isolated one, and are screening his family and friends.

Gays told of festival Aids risk

From Our Correspondent Dunfermline

Scottish health experts are worried that the Edinburgh International Festival next month may become a breeding ground for the spread of the mysterious disease acquired immuno-deficiency syndrome (Aids).

Aids has already reached epidemic proportions among the male homosexual population in the US with 1,500 reported cases and many deaths. A large number of American homosexuals are expected to visit the festival.

The estimated 40,000 homosexuals in the Edinburgh area are being cautioned by the Scottish Homosexual Rights Group to be very careful about having sexual contact with the American visitors.

Doctors face VAT charges

Doctors travelling overseas to brief themselves on the latest medical techniques are facing an immediate 15 per cent increase in their conference fees because of a Customs and Excise decision to charge value added tax on large firms exhibiting their products in export markets.

"Symposia are very keenly priced, because it is recognized that many doctors, surgeons and so on have to take part if they are to keep abreast of the latest developments."

"We are charging only about \$150 for those taking part in the International Hospital Federation conference next year in Nairobi, and \$130 as a registration fee for members of the International Federation of Clinical Chemists in Cairo this year."

"On top of that, of course, they have to pay all their air fares and hotel costs - but they are not VAT rated."

"Between 400 and 500 people will be in Cairo, with about 60 from the UK. The British are the only ones having to pay VAT, because the Customs and Excise decision relates only to British-based foreign conference organizers."

Conference plea

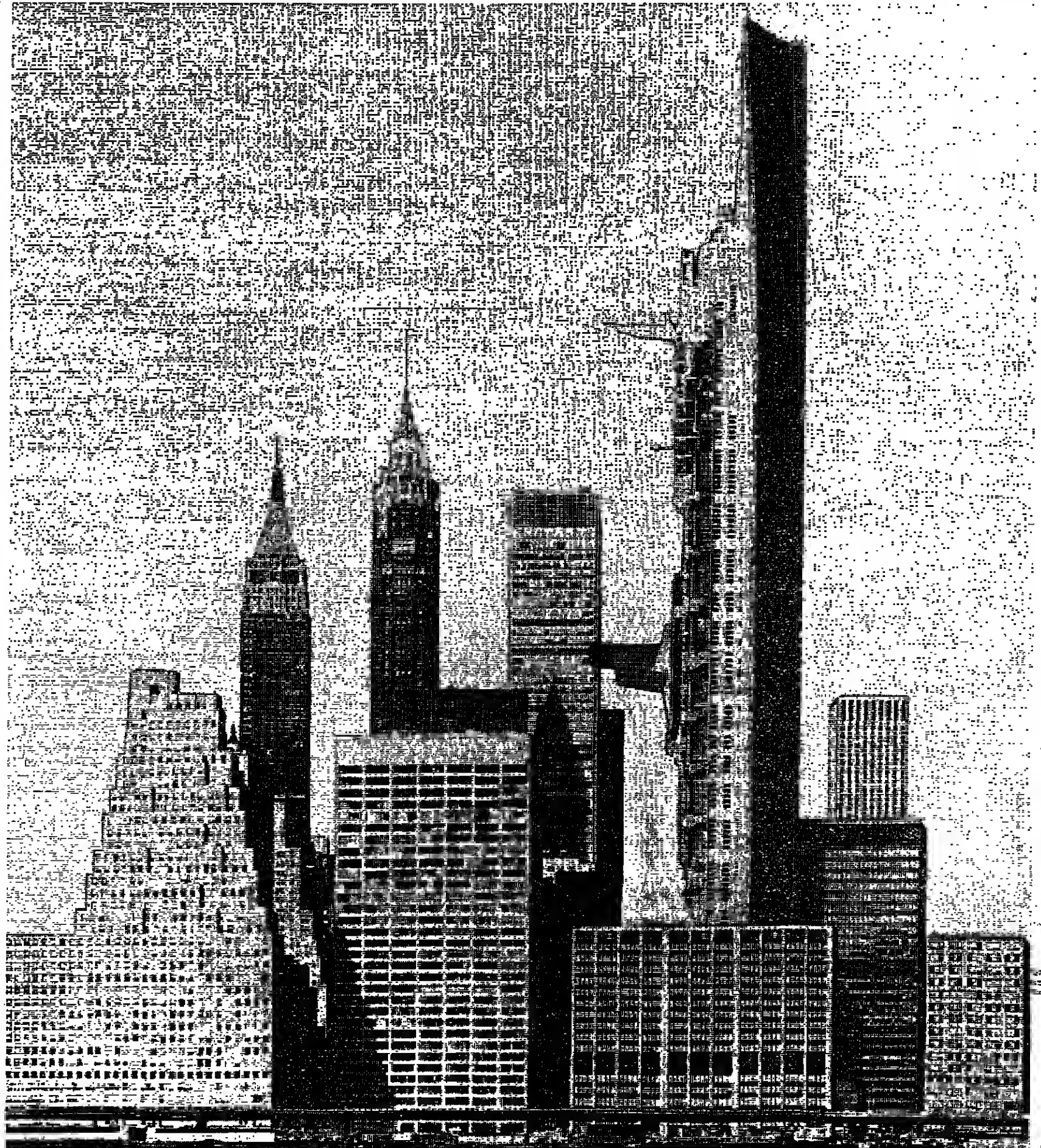
Gay hoteliers at Scarborough, North Yorkshire, are to press the town council to allow the Campaign for Homosexual Equality to hold a conference at the resort, after three rejections in recent years.

Bargain houses

King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council is to offer 60 per cent discounts to some tenants when they buy their homes. A house valued at £15,000 can be bought for £5,000.

Litter drive

Only about 100 volunteers braved Saturday's bad weather to help clean up Holywood Park, Edinburgh. About 2,000 had been expected after the Queen's recent comments on litter in the park.



New York? Nothing tops the QE2.

Nothing tops going on business to New York on the QE2.

Yet surprisingly one of our air/sea return packages can cost less than a Business Class return flight.

In fact for as little as £680 you can spend five days travelling out on the most prestigious ship in the world.

And then come back on British Airways absolutely free.

Of course you can do the trip the other way round. And there are other packages where you can take your wife free, or even fly one way on Concorde for £950. There's even a special deal on December 16th when for £765 we're offering two air/sea tickets for the price of one.

However you choose to do it, you'll find nothing in New York comes close to experiencing the QE2.

No matter what lofty heights you reach whilst you're there.

For complete details and timetables contact your travel agent or Cunard at 8 Berkeley Street, London W1X 6GN. Or post this coupon to Cunard Excursion Services, Park Farm Road, Folkstone, Kent CT19 5DZ. T25/7

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss) _____

Address _____

QUEEN ELIZABETH 2

Motorists respect police but despise traffic law 'lottery', report says

By Alan Hamilton

Many of Britain's 15 million motorists take a cynical view of the enforcement of traffic laws, regarding them as a punitive lottery concerned more with imposing penalties than improving road sense, according to a study conducted by the Police Foundation by Oxford University.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motorist outlaw," who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time. Many police chiefs regard traffic as a vital area of public relations and will, for example, refuse to sanction the full complement of traffic wardens in their areas for fear of worsening relations with the public.

Other areas where police and public conspire in speed limits; in some areas, particularly in London, the police impose their own unwritten speed limits to keep the traffic moving, and drivers may have considerable leeway beyond the roadside speed signs.

At the same time, traffic police may be over-zealous. The report suggests that probationary officers are encouraged to pursue borderline cases because they are good training and a high rate of prosecutions is likely to further their careers.

Motorists interviewed for the report often spoke highly of police officers who had stopped them, remarking on their courtesy, professionalism, and discretion in knowing where a well-judged warning would be more effective than a report.

But the survey also notes that officers can also be unnecessarily offensive in their opening remarks when approaching an erring driver.

The issue of warnings to drivers varied widely between different police forces, from 3 per cent of stopped drivers in Norfolk to 24 per cent in Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and West Yorkshire.

Road Users and the Police. (M. C. Dix and A. D. Layzell, Transport Studies Unit, University of Oxford. To be published by Croom Helm, £13.95 hardback and £6.95 paperback).

	Men	Women	All drivers
Given verbal warning	42	53	44
Sent warning letter	4	2	4
Taken to court	41	23	38
Other sanctions	4	5	4
No further action/ no further warning/ refused	8	15	10

Source: R. Griffiths et al., *Incidence and Effects of Police Action on Motoring Offences as Described by Drivers, Transport & Road Research Laboratory, 1980.*

Motorists interviewed for the report often spoke highly of police officers who had stopped them, remarking on their courtesy, professionalism, and discretion in knowing where a well-judged warning would be more effective than a report.

But the survey also notes that officers can also be unnecessarily offensive in their opening remarks when approaching an erring driver.

The issue of warnings to drivers varied widely between different police forces, from 3 per cent of stopped drivers in Norfolk to 24 per cent in Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and West Yorkshire.

Road Users and the Police. (M. C. Dix and A. D. Layzell, Transport Studies Unit, University of Oxford. To be published by Croom Helm, £13.95 hardback and £6.95 paperback).

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motorist outlaw," who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motorist outlaw," who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motorist outlaw," who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motorist outlaw," who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motorist outlaw," who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motorist outlaw," who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overestimate the risk of being caught, the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other areas; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

Naturalists fear for future of bird refuge

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

Mudflats on the Tees estuary in Cleveland are at the centre of a conservation argument which could become as bitter as that about the Somerset Levels. The bird refuge on 400 acres of Seal Sands on the western side of the estuary are recognized officially in Britain as a site of special scientific interest.

They also make up one of fewer than 250 sites worldwide which are accepted as being wetlands of international importance for wildlife under the Ramsar convention of 1971. But naturalists fear that they are not being given enough protection against reclamation.

They are angry about a deal worked out at a meeting from which they were excluded. Local councils and the Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority were asked to the meeting by Mr William Waldegrave, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of the Environment.

Naturalists were worried about statutory powers which would enable the authority to start reclaiming the sands without consultation. The authority agreed at the meeting to submit any such proposal for planning approval, and so risk a veto by ministers.

The Nature Conservancy Council, the main wildlife watchdog, decided in the light of that deal to reject appeals from naturalists to press the Government for a nature conservation order on the site. Such orders give ministers the toughest safeguards available under wildlife law, but are meant to be used only when important sites face immediate threats.

The council decided that the port authority's acceptance of a planning constraint meant that there was no immediate threat. But Friends of the Earth insisted that a conservation order was essential.

Mr Christopher Rose, the organization's countryside campaigner, said: "This new deal does not change the situation as far as nature conservation is concerned. Thousands of birds may perish because of Civil Service ineptitude and the minister's decision."

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said the area should be declared a national nature reserve. Mr Ian Armstrong, the society's regional officer for northern England, said that it was not satisfied with the new deal.

Datuk Mokhtar Hashim, aged 41, former Culture, Youth and Sports Minister, being led away handcuffed to a policeman after the Malaysian Federal Court of Appeal confirmed the death sentence passed on him for the murder of a political rival.

The court acquitted Rahmat Satiman, aged 53, a former village headman condemned with him for the murder. Only a royal pardon now stands between Datuk Mokhtar and the gallows (M. G. G. Pillai writes from Kuala Lumpur).

Datuk Mokhtar and four others were charged with murdering Datuk Abdul Taha Talib, aged 49, the speaker of a state assembly, in April last year. One of the accused died before the trial and two were acquitted.

Datuk Mokhtar and Mr Satiman were sentenced to death in March after a 75-day trial, one of Malaysia's longest. Legal and political sources were unhappy that a procedure enacted initially to deal with offences under the Internal Security Act was used in the trial of Datuk Mokhtar. This restricts the rights of the accused.

The party, which is the legalized political front organization of the outlawed terrorist group ETA also participated in an attempt to stage a similar demonstration on Saturday. However, police took special precautions, sealing off the town and checking on the movements of anyone who aroused their suspicions, in order to prevent the demonstration.

There were a few scuffles between small groups and policemen on Saturday, but for the most part the police action effectively stopped the protest.

Incidents in Renteria began last Thursday, when Basque separatists tried to tear down the red-and-yellow Spanish flag which was flying from a mast outside the town hall beside the red-white-and-green flag of the Basque country.

Policemen reacted vigorously. A number of policemen were among the injured in the mêlée in which iron bars, bicycle chains, clubs and other weapons were used.

Suspected members of ETA killed a businessman with a shot in the back of the head in the Basque capital of Victoria on Saturday for failing to pay "revolutionary taxes."

The turmoil in the Basque provinces coincides with a build-up of political tension which was evident at a meeting on Friday in Madrid between Señor Felix Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, and Señor Carlos Garamikoetxea, the president of the Basque regional government. The meeting failed to resolve differences between the central and regional governments about the handling over of certain powers.



Datuk Mokhtar Hashim, aged 41, former Culture, Youth and Sports Minister, being led away handcuffed to a policeman after the Malaysian Federal Court of Appeal confirmed the death sentence passed on him for the murder of a political rival.

Police hunt Singapore murderers

Singapore (Reuters) - Police launched a hunt for two men yesterday after a businessman, his wife and maid were murdered.

Mr Robert Tay Bak Hong, aged 63, was found huddled to death and his wife Annie Lou Ai Yee, aged 40, and maid Doby Verador, aged 27, strangled by raffia.

The bodies were found when police stormed the house after a three-hour siege. The dead man, the managing director of an electrical appliance firm, was reported to have been forced to go to a bank for money before being killed.

His daughter, Dawn Tay, 10, and her tutor - who were also held hostage - escaped unharmed. First reports said two men, one in his early twenties with a rifle, entered the house while the daughter was having lessons.

Clashes over flag leave 60 hurt in Basque town

From Our Correspondent Madrid

The secessionist Basque party Herri Batasuna was yesterday planning further demonstrations in Renteria, near San Sebastian, after clashes there over the flying of the Spanish flag had already resulted in about 60 injuries in three days. The town's annual fiesta was cancelled.

The party, which is the legalized political front organization of the outlawed terrorist group ETA also participated in an attempt to stage a similar demonstration on Saturday. However, police took special precautions, sealing off the town and checking on the movements of anyone who aroused their suspicions, in order to prevent the demonstration.

There were a few scuffles between small groups and policemen on Saturday, but for the most part the police action effectively stopped the protest.

Incidents in Renteria began last Thursday, when Basque separatists tried to tear down the red-and-yellow Spanish flag which was flying from a mast outside the town hall beside the red-white-and-green flag of the Basque country.

Policemen reacted vigorously. A number of policemen were among the injured in the mêlée in which iron bars, bicycle chains, clubs and other weapons were used.

Suspected members of ETA killed a businessman with a shot in the back of the head in the Basque capital of Victoria on Saturday for failing to pay "revolutionary taxes."

The turmoil in the Basque provinces coincides with a build-up of political tension which was evident at a meeting on Friday in Madrid between Señor Felix Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, and Señor Carlos Garamikoetxea, the president of the Basque regional government. The meeting failed to resolve differences between the central and regional governments about the handling over of certain powers.

Security conference anger Malta under attack by East and West at Madrid

From Harry Debellus, Madrid

Malta stuck to its position under a withering verbal cross-fire from East and West here yesterday, blocking agreement on a final document at the conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

The Soviet Union and the United States teamed up in the rhetorical bombardment aimed at convincing or obliging Mr Evarist Saliba, the Maltese delegate, to drop his lone demand for changes in the proposed final document to reflect Malta's plans for security in the Mediterranean.

In an unusual Sunday plenary session, scheduled like the one on Saturday in the hope of surmounting the impasse on this fifth day after the other 24 Helsinki nations reached agreement, Mr Anatoly Kovalyov, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, warned Mr Saliba that there was a growing gap between Malta and the other Helsinki nations.

He claimed that the Maltese representative was "distorting the question of consensus" and he demanded to know what made Mr Saliba think that the Maltese Government had a monopoly on the question of Mediterranean security.

Mr Edward Killham, the deputy chairman of the United States delegation, urged the Maltese representative to act with realism and responsibility. A French delegate accused Mr

Canadians protest at missile tests

From John Best, Ottawa

Thousands of Canadians marched in cities across the country at the weekend in the protest against the Government's decision to allow the United States to test air-launched cruise missiles in north-western Canada.

Mr Gilles Lamontagne, the Defence Minister, vowed to stand firm in the face of the demonstrations. MARCHES ALSO TOOK PLACE in the United States, where small groups gathered in front of Canadian consulates. One group of 200 Canadians crossed into the United States from near Kingston, Ontario. Part of this group, about 50 people, began to march on Griffiss Air Force base, near Rome, New York, 120 miles away.

It is from Griffiss that B-52 bombers are expected to begin the test missions next winter. They will fly to northern Canada and launch the cruise on a south-easterly flight path, ending at a range on the Alberta-Saskatchewan border. The test weapons will be unarmed.

Among the cities where demonstrations took place were Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Vancouver. The biggest protests were in Vancouver and Toronto, where about 4,000 people took part.

In Montreal, 300 of an estimated 1,000 who took part in the protest march staged a "die-in" at Atwater Park. They lay down for three minutes to symbolize the death toll from a nuclear war.

Mr Lamontagne, in a radio interview, said many of the demonstrators were "strictly anti-American" and some others were activists, "probably members of the Communist Party of something like that. I don't think they could make the Government reverse its decision."

Strauss meets Honecker in political about-turn

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Prime Minister of Bavaria, yesterday had a private meeting with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, at a hunting lodge near Berlin.

The meeting, rumored for the past two weeks, comes after Herr Strauss's unexpected and controversial initiative in proposing a DM1,000m (about £250m) loan to East Germany and marks a political about-turn in relations between East and West Germany.

Herr Strauss was travelling with his wife and son through East Germany after making a private visit to Poland, where he also had talks with Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Primate. Herr Strauss and his family were invited to have lunch with Herr Honecker in Werbellinsee, where the East German leader has traditionally received West German politicians, including Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic leader, who visited earlier this year.

The official East German news agency, ADN, which has strongly criticized Herr Strauss in the past, announced the meeting yesterday in a five-line dispatch. Several West German journalists based in East Berlin were taken by bus to the hunting lodge, but so far no details of the talks have emerged.

Herr Honecker would certainly have wanted to know whether Herr Strauss's backing for the credit - which cost him political support in Bavaria - marks a change in his previously tough policy towards East Berlin, and whether his Christian Social Union party is now prepared to give full backing to Chancellor Helmut Kohl's policy of trying to improve relations between the two countries.

While in Poland, Herr Strauss called for increased Western help for the Polish economy, and said the lifting of martial law was a step in the right direction. He said he understood the need to check the chaos in Poland, and believed the situation had stabilized. He drove to East Germany after almost a week in Poland.

Benefits staff ordered to pay

By Pat Healy Social Services Correspondent

In one of the most strongly worded letters ever issued by a government department, social security and unemployment benefit office managers have been told to take immediate action to ensure that unemployed claimants are no longer wrongly deprived of benefits.

Staff will be told that they are breaking the law if they do not refund benefits wrongly withheld.

The letter, issued last Wednesday to regional and local social security managers, reflects the anger and embarrassment of ministers at widespread blunders identified by the Social Security Policy Inspectorate.

The letter was issued on the day that the government announced that it would, after all, take steps to repay benefit wrongly deducted from people who were dismissed or resigned their jobs.

Estimates based on figures released by the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) suggest that 56,000 people have been underpaid by up to £1.2m because of errors by social security staff.

Tomorrow the Commons is due to debate proposals to end the present "compassion clause" allowing 20 per cent of benefit to be deducted in cases of hardship, instead of the 40 per cent applied to people deliberately becoming unemployed. The letter indicates that ministers feel it would be more difficult to effect that change if they cannot reassure MPs that the rules are now being followed properly.

The letter says: "It is, of course, indefensible if existing procedures are operated incorrectly at a time when amending regulations reducing the criteria for the lower rate deduction are being processed by ministers."

It instructs managers to take steps to ensure that staff are familiar with the rules and apply them properly. Staff must be made aware that they must not make a deduction "just to be on the safe side."

The letter adds: "When a voluntary unemployment decision is subsequently found to be incorrect, local officers must refund the arrears. Staff who fail to do so are illegally depriving claimants of benefit."

New training notes are being prepared to make sure that staff understand and apply the rules. Meanwhile, both the DHSS and the Department of Employment, whose local office managers have been sent a similar letter, have stopped destroying case papers after one year in the hope of being able to identify some of the people whose benefits were wrongly reduced.

But only a minority of the people affected will be found in that way. Mr Tony Lyles, a special adviser on social security to the last Labour Government, said yesterday. He pointed out that most people affected are now back in work and do not know that they had wrongly been underpaid benefit.

The letter, issued last Wednesday to regional and local social security managers, reflects the anger and embarrassment of ministers at widespread blunders identified by the Social Security Policy Inspectorate.

The letter was issued on the day that the government announced that it would, after all, take steps to repay benefit wrongly deducted from people who were dismissed or resigned their jobs.

Estimates based on figures released by the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) suggest that 56,000 people have been underpaid by up to £1.2m because of errors by social security staff.

Shock tactics for armoured riot-beater

By Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent

A formidable new vehicle for controlling riots will soon go into production in Britain. It is being promoted in the Far East and South America, but not in Britain nor, at present, in Europe.

It will be equipped with an intimidating array of defensive and offensive systems, including: 16 grenade launchers; 18 gun ports; a 7,000-volt electrical charge running through the bodywork's external skin; a sounder bodywork; high-pressure water cannon capable of knocking over a vehicle and also able to spray dye so that suspects can be identified; searchlights and floodlights; infra-red camera.

The vehicle is equipped with other facilities. The armoured bodywork is claimed to be waterproof and airtight and can be closed down, allowing the crew inside to survive for more than an hour using the air-conditioning and oxygen supplies. It has a chemical lavatory.

The windscreen-washers can dispense white spirit for removing paint or other materials thrown at it, and the windscreen-wipers are fitted with what are described as "heavy-duty household brushes", also for removing paint and other materials.

The vehicle has a "cow-catcher" on the front for pushing aside barricades and other obstacles.

The AMAC-1 as it is known, will be built on a heavy-duty Bedford chassis.

The bodywork fabrication will be carried out by Hampshire Transchoc of Southampton. The vehicle will be marketed by the AMAC Corporation, a British company based in London.

Mr Paul Latham, AMAC's marketing director, said: "It is not an aggressive vehicle essentially. It is designed to avoid people killing each other. It is intended to look and feel frightening."

If objects were thrown at the vehicle, he said, it had various levels of defence, the most important being its armour protection and bullet-proof tyres.

Mr Latham said the 7,000-volt charge in the exterior of the bodywork, when switched on, would deliver a 2-amp shock to anyone touching it. This would be enough "for people to get a bit of a nasty shock and receive a burn", but it would not kill.

The first prototype is expected to be ready by Christmas, and production is hoped to be running at five a week by 1985.

Mr Latham said his company was close to agreement on a first order for 20 vehicles from a Middle East country. It is also being promoted in Pakistan, India, Indonesia and parts of South America.

The bodywork fabrication will be carried out by Hampshire Transchoc of Southampton. The vehicle will be marketed by the AMAC Corporation, a British company based in London.

Finance firms in talks to save Scots paper

Agents for a proposed consortium of financial institutions will spend today and tomorrow in talks aimed at saving the Sunday Standard newspaper, which is due to close next week.

The talks in Glasgow with the newspaper's publishers, Lomro-owned George Outram company, follow an examination of the newspaper's books by MacDonald Orr, the Edinburgh financial consultant.

The consultants have been commissioned to do the study by Parsons and Company, the Glasgow stockbrokers. Scottish financial circles are believed to be showing considerable interest.

The move, if successful, would safeguard most of the 38 journalists' jobs at risk. A decision is expected within a few days.

Listed 1930s church faces demolition

By Our Environment Correspondent

A 50-year-old church in Brighton may soon be demolished despite protests that it is a sound structure of great architectural value. St Wilfrid's is considered by Sir John Betjeman to be "about the best thirteenth century church there is". It carries an official listing of grade two, starred, the highest rating of historic interest that can be given to a twentieth century building.

But churches are outside normal historic building controls, and St Wilfrid's is reaching the end of the three-year period during which offers of alternative uses are invited after a declaration of redundancy.

One reason for declaring the church redundant in 1980 was because some of the roofs had been lined with an acoustic coating containing asbestos. Many local authorities are stripping public buildings of asbestos, because of a danger that the minute fibres can be inhaled. They can cause rare cancers by puncturing lung linings.

St Wilfrid's was designed by H. S. Goodhart-Rendel (1887-1959) whose work includes many churches and the head offices of Hay's Wharf on the south bank of the Thames in London. The brick structure of St Wilfrid's served only a small parish, and has no future as a church.

The Advisory Board for Redundant Churches will decide next week whether to allow demolition.

Etruscan wreck damaged by looters

By Our Archaeology Correspondent

Looters have damaged an Etruscan shipwreck off the coast of Italy in the middle of excavations by a British-Italian team. Corinthian vases from southern Greece, dating to about 600 BC and worth a large amount on the art market, have been stolen.

The looters used powerful suction equipment to strip deposits from around the vases, and left what Mr Michael Mennum Bound, the project's director, described as "an enormous bomb crater". Three men were detained on the island of Giglio, south of Elba, where the wreck is located.

The Giglio wreck is one of the earliest ships known, exceeded in age only by the "royal barge" of the Pharaoh Cheops.

Ivory Coast leader visits Britain

By Henry Stanhope Diplomatic Correspondent

The most acceptable face of black Africa arrives in Britain tomorrow for his first official visit for 21 years.

Malta under
by East
West at M

THE KEY FEATURES YOU GET IF YOU BUY EVERY COMPACT COPIER IN THE WORLD.

Automatic Paper-size Selection: automatic selection of the right paper cassette to match the size of your original.

Automatic Magnification Selection: automatic reduction/enlargement of your original to fit exactly the chosen copy format.

Zoom Reduction/Enlargement: stepless reduction or enlargement that allows you to choose the exact image area you require.

User-set Reduction/Enlargement: where you can preset a number of different magnification ratios to suit your specific needs.

Factory-set Reduction/Enlargement: where the most commonly-used magnification ratios are preset by the manufacturer: eg. A3 reduction to A4, A5 enlargement to A4, etc.

Fully-integrated System Design: where the copier is designed to accept such "intelligent" accessories as a document feeder and sorter in order to allow full copy processing capability.

Automatic Document Feeder: where many originals can be automatically processed by the copier.

Semi-automatic Document Feeder: where originals are fed in individually by hand for copying with automatic sorting if required.

Automatic Sorter: fully-integrated sorting or stacking of copy sets into individual "bins" for easier handling.

Multiple-choice Cassette System: where more than one paper cassette is used in order to give a choice of copy sizes.

Variable Exposure Control: lets you lighten or darken the image density as required.

LED Exposure Display: provides fast visual check on exposure setting.

Universal Cassette System: where one cassette can be used to hold many different paper sizes.

Manual Feed Table: permits easy copying on both sides of the copy paper or on to other materials such as card, overhead film, labels, etc.

Automatic Self-monitoring: gives continuous feedback on all aspects of the copier condition.

Alphabetical/Numerical Condition Indicator: quickly pinpoints trouble spots for rapid servicing.

Micro-processor Control: this is where the copy process is controlled through micro-processors.

Flat Paper Feed Path: helps to avoid paper jams — allows easier clearing should a jam occur.

Copy Direction Indicator: tells you in which direction to set the original — horizontally or vertically — eliminates copy errors caused by incorrect placement.

Cartridge Toner Supply: fast, easy mounting of toner supply with no smudging of fingers, paper or machine.

Multiple-copying Preset: an electronically-controlled preset "memory" allowing up to 99 consecutive copies to be made.

Automatic Image Density Control: continuous monitoring of the originals with automatic measurement and control of the toner supply in order to ensure a stable image density.

Total Check: a pushbutton-activated electronic display giving the total number of copies made.

Mechanical Copy Counter: automatically records the total number and size of copies made.

Paper-size Indicator: visual indication of the selected copy size.

Automatic Page Sequencing: where the integrated feeder automatically stacks the copied originals face-up and in the correct order.

Dual-body Design: where the upper half of the copier hinges upwards to give easier access for servicing and repair.

Dual-hinged Original Cover: fixes any original firmly to the platen including 3D objects such as books or bound documents.

Energy-saving Position: when the copier shuts off between copying operations with immediate warm-up or saves power during "stand-by."

Original Leftover Warning: an audible signal that activates when an original has been left in the copier beyond a certain time period (usually about 10 secs.).

Electronic Paper-selection: allows you to switch between different cassettes at the touch of a button.

Multi-copy Display: provides a visual readout of the number of copies ordered with automatic count-down to the final copy.

Interrupt Mode: lets the operator interrupt a multiple copy run in order to make one-off copies.

Clear/Stop Control: allows the operator to cancel a multiple copy run or to reset copy mode back to zero in case of error.

Micro-Toning System: a developing process based on an exceptionally fine-grained micro carrier and even-grained micro-toner for outstanding copy contrast.

Input Retention "Memory": where the input copy ordering information is electronically memorised for automatic recall in case of misfeeds or other stoppages.

Toner Recycling: where excess toner is automatically separated and recycled for future use.

Auto-reset: where automatic functions return to their original state within 60 seconds of operation on the manual setting, thereby helping to avoid wasted copies.

Multi-purpose Print Button: where the Print button also collects and disseminates operating condition information by means of colours or symbols or both.

Edge-to-edge Copying: where the image fills the copy from edge-to-edge with no annoying cut-off.

Dry Toner Developing: where the developing system uses a "clean" dry toner powder as opposed to less stable liquid alternative.

One-to-one A3 Copying: the ability to accept and copy A3 originals directly on to A3-sized copy paper.

Misfeed Monitoring and Display: automatic identification of a paper misfeed with a simultaneous visual warning signal.

Single-belt Design: leaves no belt mark on copies when operating with a document feeder during reduction mode.

Fixed-platen Design: where the scanner itself moves so that the platen remains stationary.

Fierce fighting in Kurdish mountains as Iraqis resist Iranian offensive

Tehran (Reuters) - Iran said yesterday its forces had repulsed an Iraqi counter attack in the Kurdish mountains of northern Iraq, where it launched a big offensive on Saturday.

The news agency Irna said Iranian troops beat back the Iraqi attack in a two-hour battle on Saturday night, killing more than 100 Iraqi soldiers and wounding at least 150.

In Baghdad a military spokesman said fierce fighting was still raging in the area early yesterday and Iraqi troops had killed more than 1,400 Iraqis.

Before news of the Iraqi counter-attack reached Tehran, official Iranian communiques said Iran had achieved the main objectives of the offensive, the first big action in the 34-month Gulf war since battles farther south in April.

The communiques said that after a day of fighting Iranian forces had captured a military base at Haj Omran, four miles inside Iraq. Iran says the base has supplied Kurdish rebels in Iraq for the past three years.

The communiques said the Iraqis had also taken the King Mountain heights, which overlook Haj Omran from

altitudes of up to 3,500 ft. They said the heights had been a base for Iraqi artillery attacks on Iranian border villages.

Iran's report on the counter-attack gave few details of the fighting, except to say there had been intense artillery duels.

Tehran Radio later quoted a military communique as saying Iranian troops were reinforcing their positions in newly occupied territory and were shelling Iraqi lines.

The communique said the Iraqis now controlled nine miles of territory from the border along the route towards the Iraqi town of Rawandiz.

Tehran Radio also quoted Mr Mir Hossein Mousavi, the Prime Minister, as saying a number of Iranian Kurdish rebels had been captured during the offensive.

Mr Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Parliament, said yesterday Iranian dissidents, including supporters of the late Shah, the outlawed Mujahedin-E-Khalq guerrillas, communists, and Kurdish rebels, had fought beside Iraqi regular troops in the latest battles.

Iran also quoted him as

saying the Iranian offensive had been mounted by a joint force, including regular troops, paramilitary Revolutionary Guards, "mobilization corps" volunteers, Iraqi dissidents and Kurds.

The mountain region where the fighting is taking place is a sensitive area for both Iran and Iraq because it is the home of Kurdish tribal groups which have fought the central governments in Tehran and Baghdad for many years.

● BAGHDAD: An Iraqi military spokesman said three Iranian infantry battalions, a mechanized battalion and two commando battalions had been wiped out. Huge quantities of Iranian weapons and ammunition were also destroyed, he said.

The spokesman did not give Iraqi casualties, which Iran put on Saturday night at more than 3,600 killed or wounded. He said scores of Kurdish rebels fighting with the Iraqis, had been killed.

An Iraqi communique issued on Saturday said groups of Kurds were fighting on both sides in the battle.



Looking ahead: An Israeli boy peers through the sights of a machine-gun mounted on a tank at a military exhibition in Tel Aviv.

Why Israeli digs are becoming battlefields

Archaeology in the Holy Land is under threat. A violent campaign of mass rallies and political pressure has been mounted by the militant ultra-orthodox community, including many anti-Zionist zealots who refuse to recognize the state of Israel.

Today the ultra-orthodox Agudat Israel Party - whose support is vital for the survival of the ruling Likud coalition - plans to take action to prevent the archaeological law - the Knesset which experts believe would seriously hamper digging by prohibiting excavations on any site where the rabbinical authorities believe there might be a Jewish grave.

Many Israelis see the proposed legislation as another attempt to enforce orthodox religious practices on a country where divisions between the secular and religious communities are becoming increasingly bitter. At present the Ministry of Education licenses archaeological work.

The respected Israel Exploration Society has launched a fierce campaign against the amendment, which it claims is phrased "in the most extreme terms". Professor Abraham Biran, a member, has called on Parliament not to bow to what he described as "a coalition blackmail by a minority".

The campaign to bring digs under the supervision of the religious authorities is being backed by extra-parliamentary pressure, which has included the desecration of the graves of one of the country's most distinguished archaeologists, Professor Eliezer Susskind and his wife.

The gravestone of the professor, whose archaeological son, Mr Yigael Yadin, supervised the excavations at Masada - was smashed before dawn on Friday and doused with graffiti. Two weeks earlier, a similar assault by zealots was made on the grave of Mr Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, the famous lexicographer.

Over the past fortnight, Jerusalem has experienced the worst rioting of the year with mass protests organized by religious extremists against continued digging at the famous City of David site, which they claim contains a medieval Jewish cemetery.

In Mea Sharim, the overcrowded ultra-orthodox neighbourhood near the city centre, Hebrew posters were being stuck on walls yesterday announcing another mass protest this morning.

One of the protest organizers, Rabbi Moshe Hirsch, the self-styled "foreign minister" of Neturei Karta, the most fanatical of the Hassidic sects, said: "We plan to pursue this campaign until we have buried the diggers and Zionism. Our boys are prepared for any violence the police may use against us."

Already police riot squads have had to use tear gas and batons to control the anti-archaeological protesters, who are frequently whipped into a state of near hysteria by leaders who allege that those working at the City of David site are surreptitiously moving ancient Jewish bones.

Rabbi Hirsch, complete with flowing white beard and broad-brimmed black hat, was released from jail on Friday after being held for eight days for allegedly inciting a "revolt".

The rabbi, who was born in New York, declined to elaborate on what action the zealots plan against the City of David site, terming the details "a military secret". He spoke bitterly about the Israeli Government as the "Zionist enemy" and hinted that the black-coated members of his sect had weapons with which to support their demands.

Pakistani to command Zimbabwe Air Force

General (Retired) - Air Vice-Marshal Asim Daudpota of Pakistan has been appointed commander of the Zimbabwe Air Force. A government spokesman said on Saturday he had been given air marshal's rank and would assume his duties immediately. He replaces Air Marshal Norman Walsh, a white Zimbabwean, who retired last May.

Diplomatic sources said Air Marshal Daudpota had been assigned to Zimbabwe as part of a Pakistani assistance deal for the Air Force. They believed that Pakistan would supply about 30 trained men, including pilots, technicians and administrators.

21 killed in crashes

Paris (AFP, AP) - Nine people were killed yesterday when two cars collided head-on in south-west Paris. A tenth person was seriously injured.

In West Germany, 12 people died in two air crashes. A turboprop carrying eight people crashed into the North Sea off the island of Borkum and four people died when a Cessna crashed in the Bavarian town of Neumarkt.

Polish release

War (Reuters) - Polish authorities yesterday began a programme to release political prisoners under the limited amnesty marking the end of martial law. A Justice Ministry official said.

Craxi consults

Rome - Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist Italian Prime Minister-designate, expects to complete consultations this week with other political party leaders to form a government by mid-August.

PC shoots 23

Delhi (Reuters) - A police constable went berserk at a temple in central India, shooting dead 23 people and wounding 10 before he was killed by a police patrol.

Zia's plea

Islamabad (Reuters) - President Zia ul-Haq said the Soviet Union should be helped to end its military presence in Afghanistan. He said Pakistan took Moscow's assurances about a willingness to withdraw its estimated 105,000 troops at face value.

Sixth appeal

Castelgandolfo (AP) - The Pope made his sixth appeal for the daughter of a Vatican employee, believed held by kidnappers to win the release from prison of Mehmet Ali Agca, who tried to kill the Pope in 1981.

Muslims held

Cairo (Reuters) - Egyptian security police have arrested 25 members of a Muslim extremist group on charges of plotting to overthrow the Government by force. The semi-official daily *Al-Ahram* reported.

Ceausescu pact

Nairobi (AFP) - President Ceausescu of Romania signed an economic cooperation pact with Somalia during his weekend visit to the pre-Western country. He joint communique called for increased exchanges of Somali and Romanian party officials.

Korchnoi move

Geneva (AP) - Victor Korchnoi, the chess grandmaster, has filed for divorce from his wife Bela a year after Russia allowed her and his family to join him in Swiss exile, his manager said.

Peruvian toll

Lima (Reuters) - Left-wing guerrillas have killed 26 peasants in four incidents in Peru's Andean province of Ayacucho in the past week, the provincial military command said yesterday.

US denies hindering peace move

From John Carlin Mexico City

President Reagan's special Central American envoy, Mr Richard Stone, said in Panama at the weekend that the United States was not intervening in the peace initiative launched by the Contadora Group, but was giving it moral support.

He said this in answer to a reporter who asked if conciliatory gestures coming from Washington in the last few days were a smokescreen for its real purpose in Central America, aggression against Nicaragua.

The envoy was speaking on the third leg of a Latin American tour on which he is discussing Central American peace proposals put forward a week ago in Cancun, Mexico, by the presidents of the countries in the Contadora Group - Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama.

In Panama City, Mr Stone met President Ricardo de la Esparilla and other leaders. Nothing has been given away on the subjects discussed, but comments by Señor Juan José Amado, Panama's Foreign Minister, indicate there might have been a certain friction between Mr Reagan's envoy and Panamanian officials.

In an interview, Señor Amado said the recent decision by Washington to send warships to Central America's west coast was ill-timed.

Officials in Colombia and Venezuela, the next countries Mr Stone plans to visit, echoed Señor Amado's words, reflecting the hostility in the Latin American press to what is seen as a contradiction between Mr Stone's apparent peace mission, the conciliatory statements he is making, and Washington's provocative actions.

Freed dogs of war soon fall out

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The six "dogs of war", pardoned by President Albert René and deported from the Seychelles, arrived back in South Africa this weekend snarling at each other. They said they believed one of them would have "stopped at nothing" to save his own skin, even in exchange for the lives of his fellow prisoners.

Mr Bernard Carey, a Briton aged 40, who was one of four of the captives sentenced to death, said he blamed this unnamed man for telling the Seychelles authorities he was second-in-command of the "Froth Blowers" raiding party led by Colonel "Mad Mike" Hoare in November, 1981, in an abortive attempt to oust President René.

Mr Carey, a "professional adventurer" who with Mr Roger England, aged 27, a former paratrooper and fellow Briton has been given a permit to stay in South Africa for 14 days, claimed: "Because of this I suffered a terrible amount of punishment and ended up in hospital very badly beaten."

Two of the other freed mercenaries, Mr Jeremiah Puren, aged 59, a second-hand car dealer from Durban, and Mr Roger Sims, who is Colonel Hoare's brother-in-law, also spoke of one of their number as "a hated man".

The six arrived at Jan Smuts airport, near Johannesburg, on board a British Airways airliner on Saturday to an ecstatic and excited welcome from a large crowd of relatives and friends. Later, when Mr Puren and Mr Carey reached Durban,

they were cheered at the airport - where Colonel Hoare and the rest of the "Froth Blowers" landed in a hijacked Air India Boeing after their escape from the Seychelles - like returning heroes.

Colonel Hoare is serving a 10-year prison sentence for the hijack, but 34 other mercenaries, who were given the maximum five-year sentence under South Africa's anti-hijacking Air Offences Act, were freed conditionally after six months.

Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, indicated this weekend that the South African authorities had no further interest in the case. "I am finished with the Seychelles affair," he said.

The six freed men all hinted they knew more about who was behind the bungled coup than yet been revealed. Mr Puren, said the plot to overthrow President René and install Mr James Manoham - ousted in a bloodless coup in 1977 - was first suggested in 1979 by Seychelles exiles.

It was to be backed by Middle East business interests

● VICTORIA: The Seychelles Government has announced that elections to the one-party National Assembly will be held. The last assembly's term expired last month, Leslie Plummer writes. The Seychelles People's Progressive Party is the country's sole political party, with branches choosing Assembly members.

Man in the news

Habib's imperturbable heir

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's new Middle East peace envoy, is a strong and silent man - a former Marine Corps colonel who exudes confidence and quiet charm. Under fire he would be imperturbable.

He is also publicity-shy. Though the politically moderate and soft-spoken Mr McFarlane is a power in the President's National Security Council, his name and photographs have seldom appeared in the press.

Hitherto he has met journalists mainly to conduct background briefings on big international, security, and arms control issues. It was made clear that he was only to be referred to as "a high administration official".

So Mr McFarlane, aged 46, who is deputy to Mr William Clark, the President's National Security Adviser, remains the "quintessential staff man".

He is one of the main shapers of the Administration's foreign and national security policies, but very much behind the scenes, working long hours in the White House. He shies from taking the limelight.

Mr McFarlane was born on July 12, 1937. He graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1959 with a degree in electrical engineering. He also studied international relations at the Institut des Hautes Etudes in Geneva. He and his wife, Jondra, have three children.

Mr McFarlane, a six-footer, resigned from the Marines in 1979 after a 24-year military career.

Before becoming a presidential aide, he was a counsellor at the State Department for a year. He was on the staff of the

Senate armed services committee from 1979 to 1981.

Between 1973 and 1975, Mr McFarlane was assistant to Dr Henry Kissinger, and to General Brent Scowcroft at the National Security Council. He then served as a special assistant for national security affairs under President Ford.

The personalities of the reserved Mr McFarlane and the effusive Mr Philip Habib, whom he succeeds, are strikingly different. Mr Habib, the former distinguished career diplomat, is gregarious, full of Johnsonian wit.

Mr McFarlane, whose nickname is Bud, weighs each word carefully and talks slowly. But, unlike many military officers, he does not bark orders. He is patient and often disarms a reporter by saying: "that is a very good question." Then, in his most methodical way, he sets out to answer it in detail. He does not talk down to people; he is not an intellectual snob.

General Scowcroft nearly summed up Mr McFarlane's personality: "Bud is very smart, very thoughtful, very loyal, keeps his own counsel and avoids publicity."

Mr Habib, of Lebanese extraction, was at home in the Middle East, and, right now, Mr McFarlane will also be at home in Beirut. He will be among the 1,200 Marines in the United States contingent, which, with troops from France, Italy and Britain, forms the multinational peace-keeping force in Lebanon. He is a Vietnam veteran, so he will take the dangers of factional fighting and shelling in Lebanon in his stride.

Politically too, Mr McFarlane is not without Middle East experience: in 1981 Mr Alexander Haig, then Secretary of State, sent him to Israel for delicate private talks with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister.

Mr Haig also used Mr McFarlane to develop a set of strategic options for dealing with Libya and Central America.

Some of Mr Reagan's conservative supporters criticized Mr Clark for appointing Mr McFarlane as his deputy (which title he will retain). Though some commentators consider him a hardliner in dealings with Moscow Mr McFarlane also has the reputation of being one of the more moderating influences in the White House on foreign policy and arms control.

He told reporters that he had undertaken the new assignment with "a deep sense of conviction" that it "is incumbent on the United States to do everything we possibly can, first, to bring peace to Lebanon" and, then, to restore peace to the entire Middle East.



McFarlane: Policy-shaper

summed up Mr McFarlane's personality: "Bud is very smart, very thoughtful, very loyal, keeps his own counsel and avoids publicity."

Mr Habib, of Lebanese extraction, was at home in the Middle East, and, right now, Mr McFarlane will also be at home in Beirut. He will be among the 1,200 Marines in the United States contingent, which, with troops from France, Italy and Britain, forms the multinational peace-keeping force in Lebanon. He is a Vietnam veteran, so he will take the dangers of factional fighting and shelling in Lebanon in his stride.

Politically too, Mr McFarlane is not without Middle East experience: in 1981 Mr Alexander Haig, then Secretary of State, sent him to Israel for delicate private talks with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister.

Mr Haig also used Mr McFarlane to develop a set of strategic options for dealing with Libya and Central America.

Some of Mr Reagan's conservative supporters criticized Mr Clark for appointing Mr McFarlane as his deputy (which title he will retain). Though some commentators consider him a hardliner in dealings with Moscow Mr McFarlane also has the reputation of being one of the more moderating influences in the White House on foreign policy and arms control.

He told reporters that he had undertaken the new assignment with "a deep sense of conviction" that it "is incumbent on the United States to do everything we possibly can, first, to bring peace to Lebanon" and, then, to restore peace to the entire Middle East.

US environment official cleared at contempt trial

Washington (Reuters) - Miss Rita Lavelle, a former Environmental Protection Agency official, was found not guilty at the weekend of contempt of Congress for failing to obey a subpoena to testify before a congressional subcommittee.

The 12-member jury deliberated for 90 minutes on Friday before delivering the surprise verdict. Miss Lavelle, aged 35, who headed the agency's toxic waste clean-up programme until she was dismissed by President Reagan in February, was cited for contempt of Congress for refusing to appear on March 21 before a House of Representatives subcommittee.

The subcommittee was one of several investigating the agency's handling of a \$1.6 billion (£1 billion) "superfund" allocated by Congress for the clean-up of toxic waste sites. Miss Lavelle was cleared after a two-day trial.

11 killed by rebels in Uganda

From Charles Harrison Nairobi

In the latest wave of killings in Uganda, 11 people were backed to death at the Namalere agricultural research station, near here, by men described by the Government as bandits, its term for anti-Government guerrillas.

Radio Uganda said five of them were killed with axes, knives and other weapons in the officers' club at the station, while the others were attacked in houses nearby. The radio said some villagers were also killed in the same raid. The area is close to one where a similar attack was carried out a few weeks ago.

In the Luwero district, a few miles farther north, two opposition MPs - Mr Kizumba Mugerwa and Mr Jol Senteza - have been arrested for allegedly cooperating with guerrillas.

PLO executive summons emergency session

Tunis (AFP, Reuters) - The Palestine Liberation Organization's executive committee yesterday called for the normalization of relations between Syria and the PLO.

The executive committee said after meeting on Friday and Saturday with Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, in the chair, that an emergency special session of the Palestinian Central Council would be called.

The call came amid reports of a fresh outbreak of fighting between Fatah factions in the Belqa Valley, in eastern Lebanon.

The Central Council is the intermediary body between the executive committee and the Palestinian National Council, or parliament.

The Central Council meeting, the first since the rebellion by dissident Fatah officers, is likely to be held before the end of the month.

Yesterday M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, arrived here for a surprise 24-hour visit and met Mr Arafat.

The meeting was part of a fact-finding mission on Middle East issues Mr Cheysson began earlier this month when he went to Syria, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel.

His talks with Mr Arafat were aimed at keeping France informed on latest developments; he did not herald a French mediation attempt to solve Syrian-Palestinian differences, diplomatic sources said.

The meeting took place at the home of Mr Hakam Belaoui, representative in Tunisia, at La Marsa, near Tunis.

M Cheysson, who later left for Algeria, also met Mr Beji Caid Essebi, the Tunisian Foreign Minister, and Mr C Hedi Klibi, the Arab League Secretary-General, who is going to Damascus on a mediation mission as a member of the Arab conciliation committee.

Gandhi pledge

Delhi (Reuters) - Mrs I Gandhi, the Prime Minister, switched on India's first domestically built nuclear power station at the weekend and pledged to use atomic energy only for peaceful purposes. The plant, at Kalpakkam in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, was designed and built by Indian scientists and engineers.

Bahrain non-stop from Heathrow daily at 10.00

Gulf Air. 21 TriStar flights a week. The warmest possible welcome, complimentary refreshments and entertainments, choice of International and Middle Eastern cuisine, honoured by La Chaine des Rotisseurs. There's no better businessman's choice to the Gulf.



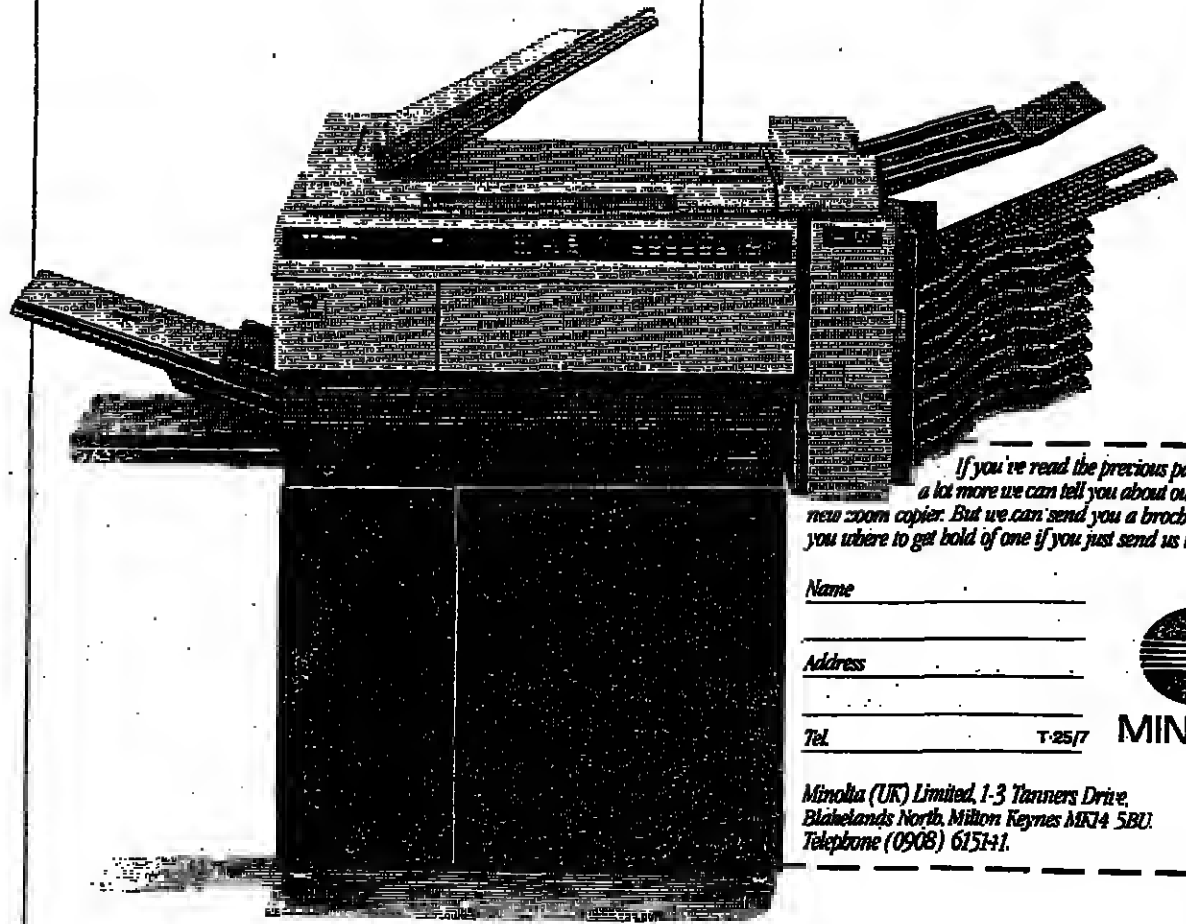
صوتنا من الامم

For more information call your travel agent or Gulf Air. 73 PICCADILLY, LONDON W1V 7SE. TELEPHONE: 01-400 1951. BIRMINGHAM 021 632 9591. MANCHESTER 061 832 9677. GLASGOW 041 348 6591. KEY PRESTON 22 9515

Spread your wings

THE KEY FEATURES YOU GET IF YOU BUY THE NEW MINOLTA ZOOM COPIER.

See previous page.

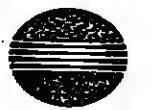


If you've read the previous page, there isn't a lot more we can tell you about our remarkable new zoom copier. But we can send you a brochure and tell you where to get hold of one if you just send us the coupon.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. _____ T-25/7



MINOLTA

Minolta (UK) Limited, 1-3 Tanners Drive, Blakelands North, Milton Keynes MK14 5BU. Telephone (0508) 615111.

EP450Z. THE WORLD'S FIRST COMPACT ZOOM COPIER.

Fight for national interest in EEC switches to quotas of fish and steel

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Two more difficult and probably angry meetings of the EEC's Council of Ministers are scheduled to start today in Brussels. This time the arguments are over fish and steel, as last week they were over money.

Last week every member of the Community fought to protect its own vested cash interests. Today and tomorrow they will fight just as hard to protect their quotas of fish and steel. Everybody wants a larger slice of the cake because the size of the cake is shrinking.

Britain was not surprised last week when it was voted down over the size of its cash rebate. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, went out of his way two days before the budget council started, to warn ministers against any move to tinker with the agreed amounts. He would have done so only if he felt the rebate was in danger.

The whole incident has soured relations inside the Community at a time when the spirit of compromise is desperately needed if the EEC is to survive as an effective organization capable of protecting its interests in the world.

Good will, despite all the good intentions voiced at summit meetings, seems to be totally lacking. The very day after the Stuttgart summit agreed that more had to be done to open internal frontiers and create a real common market, a special council met and agreed nothing on this very point.

Last week foreign ministers discussed again how to reshape the Community's regional fund and again they agreed on nothing. The number of cases before the European Court for breaking obligations by member states is increasing.

The outlook for the two councils today is extremely pessimistic. All in all, it seems that just as the argument in Britain about Community membership ought to be dead and buried, the question arises as to whether member states care enough about the Community to want it to continue any more.

The argument over the British budget contribution has coincided with the time when the Community for a variety of reasons is running out of funds and ideas. The fact that Britain insists on paying a smaller share of the running expenses does contribute to the financial crisis.

But what is showing up in a stark profile is the fact that any country's commitment to the European ideal varies in direct relationship to the amount of money, in cash or trade terms, it receives from EEC membership.

Last week M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, said Britain was the only EEC member state yet to join the Community. He was quite right in that Britain does not want to be a member of the kind of Community where farmers do well at the expense of everyone else, and at the expense of good relations with the United States and the developing world.

The EEC has a tiny budget equivalent to no more than 2 per cent of the total domestic budget of all the member states. That is enough money to run a city of about three million people and the funds are administered with a staff of no more than are employed by Lambeth Council, borough of London. With these limited resources a Community has been created with a meaning to the outside world, which is far more important than member states themselves seem to place on it at the moment.

The seven Greenpeace activists held by the Russians for five days were back in Alaska yesterday after their most dramatic and best publicized protest against whaling.

A cheering crowd greeted them when they came ashore at the port of Nimsa. The protesters, two of them women, were jubilant. They and their Greenpeace colleagues were even more pleased to bear from Britain that the International Whaling Commission, meeting in Brighton, had cut commercial hunting quotas by 18 per cent.

Mr John Fritel, director of Greenpeace, said: "We will go on campaigning until there is nothing to campaign against." The commission, to which 48 countries belong, voted last year to end all commercial whaling by 1986. But it has no power of enforcement and the three main whaling nations - Japan, Russia and Norway have objected to the ban.

Greenpeace had promised a confrontation at sea with the Russians, but last week's publicity coup, timed to coincide with the Brighton meeting, was beyond their expectations.

The group had landed at a Siberian whaling station to draw attention to the use of whale meat to feed tanks.

Back on board: The Greenpeace protesters back in their ship Rainbow Warrior after being held by the Russians. From left, Jim Henry, Chris Cook, Ron Precious, Nancy Foote, David Rinehart, Pat Derron and Barbara Higgins.

From David Bonavia Hongkong

Way clear for progress in Peking

Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, has arrived in Peking for further talks on the future of the colony. He was accompanied by Mr Robin MacLaren, his political adviser, and the two men will return to Hongkong on Wednesday.

Chinese leaders evidently believe the talks are likely to make more progress now that they are satisfied Britain will not take an adamant stand on the validity of the nineteenth-century treaties ceding Hongkong to Britain.

They have also established that Hongkong itself is not represented officially at the talks, as Sir Edward is regarded merely as a member of the British negotiating team headed by Sir Percy Cradock, the Ambassador to Peking.

Sir Percy yesterday told correspondents in Peking: "We're looking forward to a really busy and useful two days." Public opinion in Hongkong has calmed down somewhat after the alarm caused by the disagreement over Sir Edward's status. Most people here have confidence that he will put Hongkong's case ably, though Peking is extremely hostile to the argument that care should be taken to avoid disturbing the stability of Hongkong.

It officially considers, quite unjustifiably, that most Hongkong people are receptive to the idea of being reabsorbed by China.

Today's confirmation that China will go ahead with the construction of a nuclear power plant near the Hongkong border is seen as a good sign, since Hongkong will be expected to pay for extra power supplies with hard currency, possibly well beyond the 1997 date for re-assumption of Chinese sovereignty.

There is pessimism, however, about the future of the Hongkong dollar, which has fallen to 7.2 to the United States dollar and is widely expected to decline further, though gradually. This instantly raises the cost of living

ambush kills 13 soldiers in Sri Lanka

An army officer and 12 soldiers died and two soldiers were seriously injured early yesterday when their vehicle was wrecked by an explosion near Jaffna in north Sri Lanka.

Two of the soldiers were killed instantly while the other 11 fell to rifle fire and bombs thrown at them as they got off the vehicle to take counter-action.

The soldiers fired back and bloodstains behind a wall from which the attack was made indicated that some of the terrorists may have been killed or injured.

The Government said some of the terrorists were wearing army uniform. Investigations revealed that the explosion was set off by a device about 50 yards away. The device is presumed to have been stolen from a government cement factory.

Hassan to see Thatcher as Rock prospects dim

Sir Joshua Hassan, Gibraltar's Chief Minister, will have more talks at Downing Street tomorrow with Mrs Thatcher, amid concern over the prospects for the colony.

The most immediate issue is British support for the Rock's troubled economy, particularly its naval dockyard, where 1,000 workers are due to lose their jobs in December.

Spain's Foreign Minister, recently referred to a new formula and there has been speculation that he wants to redraft the 1980 Lisbon agreement, under which Spain promised to reopen the frontier with Gibraltar in return for talks with Britain.

He has described the agreement, which has still to be fully implemented, as imperfect and unequal and reacted angrily to a recent claim by Mrs Thatcher that Spain could hardly be admitted to the European Community while border restrictions remained.

Gibraltar claims it is losing up to £100,000 a week because many people cross to Spain to shop and dine, while Spanish customs duties inhibit Spaniards from making similar trips to the Rock.

With the dockyard closure, this represents a double blow to the economy.

Greenpeace seven back in Alaska

From Trevor Fishlock New York

France firm favourites in bridge championship

From Keith Stanley Wiesbaden

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship

France firm favourites in bridge championship



Back on board: The Greenpeace protesters back in their ship Rainbow Warrior after being held by the Russians. From left, Jim Henry, Chris Cook, Ron Precious, Nancy Foote, David Rinehart, Pat Derron and Barbara Higgins.

Torrential rains in Japan claim 120 lives

Tokyo (Reuters) - More than 120 people were dead or missing yesterday in landslides and flooding triggered by torrential rain in western Japan. Police said 15 bodies had been recovered by rescuers searching through the wreckage of mud-covered houses, bringing the death toll to 64, with 54 others still missing. More than 2,000 troops and policemen were mobilized in Shimane prefecture, the hardest hit area on the Japan Sea coast.

In China, Jiangsu province has reported continuing rain and floods but there was no more news from other storm-threatened areas as Peking, by contrast, sweltered in a heat-wave, with water rationing for industry and a cut in work hours due to the heat.

US Navy saves 262 boat people

Bangkok - An American naval vessel landed 262 Vietnamese refugees in Thailand after rescuing them from two boats in the South China Sea. The United States Navy is now looking for a third boat carrying 80 refugees believed still to be in the Gulf of Thailand (Neil Kelly writes).

The first boat left Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) on July 14 with 173 refugees and the second sailed from Rach Gia province on July 18 with 89 refugees. All those rescued will be settled in the United States.

Record freeze

Moscow (Reuters) - Soviet polar researchers registered a record-low temperature of minus 89.2C (-129F) at a research station in the Antarctic last Thursday. Tass reported yesterday.

Standings after 12 rounds: 1. France 193; 2. Belgium 169; 3. West Germany 165; 4. Poland 160; 5. Hungary 145; 6. Italy 138; 7. Austria 137; 8. Sweden 137; 9. Netherlands 135; 10. Norway 127; 11. Lebanon 123; 12. Romania 121; 13. Switzerland 120; 14. Ireland 120; 15. Israel 119; 16. Britain 107; 17. Denmark 106; 18. Portugal 81; 19. Turkey 84; 20. Luxembourg 80; 21. Yugoslavia 79; 22. Iceland 67; 23. Finland 62; 24. Spain 59.

Women's series round one: Israel 1, Poland 19; France 11, Spain 9; Italy 4, Netherlands 16; Britain 18, Finland 2, Ireland 15, Switzerland 5; Germany 13, Sweden 7.

DANGLE THIS AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING.

In any discussion on the choice of fuel there's one fact that emerges head and shoulders above the rest. Coal is a considerably cheaper fuel than either oil or gas. But that's only the beginning of the story.

THE CHANGING FACE OF COAL

There have been some impressive advances in boiler technology, combustion techniques and methods of coal and ash handling. It's now possible to operate in excess of 80% thermal efficiency. Equally surprising is that in modern installations coal and ash are seldom seen and rarely touched by hand. And smoke is consumed within the boiler.

COAL, OUR ENERGY LIFELINE

British Industry needs a modern, reliable and economical fuel to replace those that will dwindle in supply. Coal is that energy lifeline. We are fortunate enough in Britain to have the resources to supply industry with coal for

the next 300 years. At the Vienna Conference all EEC member countries agreed to reduce their reliance on imported oil; coal - the major alternative - makes Britain well placed as the largest and most efficient producer in Western Europe.

Fine, you say, but what about the cost of converting to coal?

You'll be pleased to know that there are several ways of effectively achieving an economic installation.

THE 25% GOVERNMENT GRANT SCHEME

Basically this scheme can provide for up to 25% of the total project capital cost of making the change to coal.

All companies in the private manufacturing and most service industries are eligible, providing that oil and/or gas has been used to meet at least 75% of the process steam or heating requirements over the previous year. The scheme does not stop you benefitting from other grants (Regional Development Grants for example) for which you may qualify.

HELP COMES FROM ALL QUARTERS

Apart from the grant schemes there are leasing arrangements that make converting to coal a lot easier on your cash flow. Further beneficial funding could come through the EEC. And the NCB is willing to enter into favourable medium and long-term supply arrangements with individual customers.

Here again the aim is to reduce capital outlay and bring down running costs.

It is within the power of coal to make British industry more efficient, more cost-effective, more competitive in world markets. If we make the most of what coal has to offer, all

Britain will benefit. Your company included.

For further information please fill in the coupon and send it to the National Coal Board, Technical Service Branch, Marketing Department, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7AE.

For further information on the Government Grant Scheme, please apply direct to The Department of Industry, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH.

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____

Please tick the aspects of coal you need information on:
 Government Grant Scheme
 Regional Development Grant
 EEC Funding
 Leasing developments
 Supply arrangements

NCB
Coal. The fuel with a future.

سبک از الیوم

THE ARTS

The London Symphony Orchestra may have fallen short of expectation in the City's grandest new concert hall, but it is still fighting for greater control there while its contemporaries look on in disquiet. Bryan Appleyard reports

Battle of the Barbican

Kubelick: "saved the LSO"

Pollini: flat refusal



Barbican and the London Symphony Orchestra are now in the first of negotiations about the terms of their partnership. The talks have been tense and at times heated, and they are being watched nervously by the other major independent London orchestras and the Arts Council. If they fail to reach agreement the music industry in London faces a radical upheaval, yet if they succeed the consequences may be just as profound.

The talks are taking place because the LSO's initial agreement with the City runs for three years, ending in December 1984. In 1982 this allows for three full seasons a year with approximately 100 concerts. All agree the orchestra has failed. LSO audiences have been poor and its losses have been running at £50,000 per season. The exact nature of the required changes has led to violent disagreements between the arts ecote and orchestra.

The LSO's negotiating position is that it needs greater freedom in setting its Barban dates and in influencing over other uses for the hall. Its opening stance was for slightly more concerts to be staged throughout the year and for a veto on the material that it deems to be of poor quality. Specifically, it is against concerts promoted by Raymond Gubbay at the Barbican. Gubbay promotes highly



popular programmes using either existing orchestras or his own assemblies. His 90 per cent attendance has been a constant source of embarrassment to the LSO, which has been running at 50 to 60 per cent. The rest of the deal would involve the LSO withdrawing from most of its other London dates - at the Festival Hall or the Albert Hall - thus identifying itself definitively as the orchestra of the Barbican and the City.

The strength of the LSO's position is that it is in place at the Barbican and any change would involve a loss of face for the centre. It is also

backed by the Arts Council. The Council is keen to preserve the relationship, as it is seen as potentially successful, but it is less keen to maintain its position as the subsidiser of the least popular concerts at the Barbican. It is therefore backing the LSO's drive for exclusivity and for some control of other dates in the hall. In addition, of course, the involvement of the City in financing the LSO at the Barbican brings in a new subsidising body, and that is much to the taste of the Council.

But, the orchestra's position is weakened by its poor performance at the box-office. Attendances have

been disappointing and critical responses largely negative. Feeling inside the Barbican is that the attendance figures are primarily due to a lacklustre list of conductors and poor programming, which has involved far too many repeats. Until recently they would have added that the orchestra was not up to scratch in any case. However, the recent series conducted by Rafael Kubelick has shown the orchestra can come up with the goods. In the words of one observer, "Kubelick saved the LSO".

But, Kubelick apart, the LSO picture has been looking increasingly grim. It evidently no longer enjoys

the international pre-eminence of 10 years ago. Furthermore its move to the Barbican has come at a time when all the revenue sources of the London orchestras have been shrinking painfully. Recording sessions are down, ticket sales are depressed and the competition for film and popular work has left them with the barest of profit margins. The LSO's deficit is now running at £250,000, which represents the worst financial position of any of the London orchestras.

Within the orchestra there is some resistance to the closer links with the Barbican - the Festival Hall is perceived as easily the most eminent

international venue. Meanwhile the constant struggle to improve the Barbican's acoustics has provided a string of stories suggesting various stars will have nothing to do with the place. Claudio Abbado, the LSO's principal conductor, has expressed reservations, while the pianist Maurizio Pollini has flatly refused to play there. Kubelick's success and endorsement of the acoustics has at least helped to switch the balance of that particular debate.

At the moment talks are proceeding warily. The Barbican will not give the LSO exclusive use of the hall and the veto on other concerts,

but it has so far been wearing kid gloves in its handling of the situation, its two most radical options are either to bring in another resident orchestra or to throw the hall open completely. Yet it wants agreement with the LSO because it is believed the orchestra can be successful. Far the time being the two sides are so far apart that there is a real danger of a complete breakdown. It is that happens the debate will become one between the Arts Council and the City, with both claiming the other side is failing to face up to its responsibilities.

Meanwhile the other orchestras are watching with mounting alarm. The LSO thrown out on the streets would destabilise their markets, as would the closure of the Barbican to their concerts and more City patronage of the LSO. They also have to live with the uncertainties overhauling the Royal Festival Hall since the Greater London Council decided to take a more aggressive stance on its management.

Indeed this final statement may prove to be decisive. With the RFL weakened by poor attendances and the whim of local government politics, the Barbican management may take the view that now is the time to bid for supremacy. The Barbican as a whole is, after all, just beginning to prove that it can be reasonably successful. After two decades of defending its right to exist at all it could now find itself in a position to start dictating terms.

Concerts

The big band sound

BCSO/Pritchard
Albert Hall/Radio 3/BC2

John Pritchard took on the likely role of grand bandmaster for the second half of this shiny original opening Prom of the season, and captured the attention of thirty-odd clarinets to add a massive wind band in the services of Berlioz's *Grand symphonie funebre et triomphale*. The result seemed more appropriate to the Albert Hall, but that was only a fiction on the outdoor ethos of this patriotic piece; we should rely all have processed in triumph round Hyde Park.

We were given the whole gamut of work, complete with a string parts and choral formations which Berlioz had later, and starting a mournful swinging pillar of his, the pavilion chinois, which received a special exclamation from the arena and a rapturous encore of its own. This is surely more substance in Berlioz's funeral music than in his triumphs, in it the Prom atmosphere it is as the crashing obvious arch of rejoicing with its orchestral swing to the coda into

Philharmonia/
Matacic

Albert Hall/Radio 3

His conducting career began more than sixty years ago, but Saturday night marked the centenary of his birth. Matacic, who was acclaimed with the warmth of a town at these concerts to his particular distinction, but was after a searching yet from ponderous account of the seldom-heard Symphony No 3 by Beethoven, a composer to whom von Matacic has been closely associated in the past.

He performed it in Bruckner's revised version of 1878, usually regarded as the best we can get to the composer's definitive intentions. Although this D minor symphony may be thought less satisfactory in its craftsmanship than those which followed it, it works with grace and as a whole. The conductor took a relatively restrained view of the more monumental aspects, while shaping the lyrical passages with particular delight. From the outset his concern for dynamics took account of leading and not merely boldness of contrast in the often subtle phrasing he drew from the Philharmonia players, the

SO/Daras
Barbican

life is tough at the top, especially if you happen to be only 14. To follow his much-publicized, much-discussed debut with the London Philharmonia earlier this year, the young Greek prodigy Dimitris Sioros returned in a long two-disc concert programme of two concertos with the London Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican, and the result can hardly have turned out as well as he or his promoters had hoped.

It would be difficult to think of a more inappropriate work for a teenager to choose than Beethoven's Third Concerto, which requires a quality of forwardness that the young Sioros strove for but could never find. And it would be difficult to think of a teenager to choose to display his brilliant technical prowess which would be more likely to reduce his audience to frenzied excitement than the Symphony Concerto by Manolis Kalomiris. Somewhere in the yawning gap between the sublime and ridiculous musical content of these two pieces, it was possible

A major that inspired Pritchard to his liveliest efforts. Christopher Mowat's splendid trombone solo in the slow movement was gloriously sentimental.

The huge wind band was also trundled into service for Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*, a justly forgotten trifle he arranged from themes by Weber for that composer's reburial in Dresden: little more than the popular arrangements of the previous century writ large, but nobly done.

This spectacle would all have made great television, but television, with its usual presence, had departed after the first half, which was a far less sensational affair. Pritchard conducted Beethoven's Mass in C, inflating its forces with a vast choir but taking a cool, serene view of the music; the result was fuzzy, though the figures had considerable power. Ileana Cotribas, Kathleen Kuhlmann, Robert Tear and Gwynne Howell floated nicely through the warm textures.

Juggling my casts of Glyndebourne's *Orpheus*, reviewed last week, I misattributed the part of Linette to last year's singer, this season it is sung by Aooe Mason. My apologies.

Nicholas Kenyon

strings no less than the wind instruments. Ravishing pianissimo playing was a notable feature, and in the slow movement a lyrical intensity of feeling was generated from within, as it were. A dancelike spirit more Bohemian than Wagnerian characterized the scherzo and finale.

The concert began with Cecilia Ousse as a somewhat brittle soloist in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 1. The first movement looked over its shoulder at the last-disappearing eighteenth century in its stylistic formality, as if a fortissimo might have better suited her musical intentions, but that could never have accommodated the large-scale, romantically extended cadenza of unidentified provenance which she played. Could it have been Saint-Saens?

During the concerto's slow movement the keyboard was not so much contrasted with the woodwind as an extension of the orchestral writing. The pianistic style became increasingly stilted in the finale, where the offbeat rhythmic accents gave a touch of modern syncopation in a manner that was agreeably diverting without, as sometimes happens, unduly forcing the music's pace and character.

Noel Goodwin

to observe a very interesting pianist at work. Sgoros's facility is fantastic, but he looks surprisingly awkward, as if no one has ever shown him how to sit or how to walk. His hands can encompass anything, but the rigid placement of his shoulders and arms imposes a restriction on his movement which makes his playing look more than a little tortuous.

There is little relaxation in the sound either the phrases in the Beethoven were stitched together painfully, though as soon as the music took off into extrovert passage-work he found more flow and more sense of purpose. In the sense of the most tremendous barrage of pounding octaves, stalling arpeggios and running scales while the orchestra performed acts of unimaginable banality with this was the young prodigy helped by his compatriot Yannis Daras, who flopped through the Beethoven without coordinating any of the crucial moments, and then stood in front of the LSO while they played a droopy, languid account of Elgar's *Enigma Variations*.

Nicholas Kenyon

Well remembered and splendidly acted

Now and Then, LWT's seven-part series, has the benefit of a good idea and two comic craftsmen. John Emmons and Bob Larbey, who have previously demonstrated in *Please Sir* and *The Good Life* that they can do a close enough to perfection for good humour to give them the benefit of any doubts. Though starters can be deceptive in television series, this one promises to be genuine throughout.

The "now" sees the contemporary Elston family contemplating a move from their South (should one say "south"? London home, with father pulling against the sentimental ties of boyhood. It was there that he sustained the adventure of war, observed the courting rites of his sisters, learnt that gas masks could be fun and that there was no better laboratory than an air-raid shelter for observing the vulnerability of the adult species. Maybe that was where awe began to die.

This episode lingered only shortly in the now before plunging into the nostalgia of

the then: a cheek-by-jowl world pressed even closer by war, a world of hectic family get-togethers and steady Sunday teas after which the light ale flowed and television not yet having made initiative superfluous, everyone got up and did a turn to keep Monday morning as busy.

It was well remembered and splendidly acted. The young may gaze on their elders with amazement as well as amusement but their turn will come, and those who remember the feel of a ration book may reflect that they may not have had the worst of it. Derrick Goodwin was the producer-director.

On Saturday Bernard Levis concluded his BBC2 series by interviewing Henry Moore, who this week will be 85 and whose longevity, apart from his massive achievements, makes him a difficult man to walk around in half an hour. He was grateful, he said, that he had enough talent to go on trying to do something that had a purpose, which made life significant. "If somebody has that purpose,

they are among the luckiest people in the world".

He was lucky that he lived to find that he had it. He recalled the First World War, how his unit had gone up to Cambrai 400 strong and how only 52 returned. He was demobbed early, intending to teach, but found his way to Leeds School of Art on an army grant. Perceptive, they founded a school of sculpture just for him.

He remembered the help he had from Epstein, the early days in London when he bawled the National Gallery and the British Museum, recalled the influence of Brancusi and celebrated the joy of wedding a vision of truth to material.

Artists are exhorted to ignore disapproval. He had liked renown but would have gone on just the same without it. He continued to work. Sculptors, he said, must like physical action and remarked that Michelangelo worked harder than any coal-miner. One concluded that Moore, too, must have moved a few quarries and been suited by it.

Television

Galleries
G. B. Piazzetta
Venice

The three-hundredth anniversary of the birth of one of Venice's most original painters, Giambattista Piazzetta (1683-1754), is being marked by an exhibition at the Palazzo Vendramin-Calergi, until September 25. Among the finest of Venetian palaces, it is rarely seen except by gamblers, since it is used as the winter casino, and the notion of using it during the summer for art exhibitions is the brainchild of the city's enterprising young *Assessor alla cultura*, Domenico Crivellari, one of whose objects in so doing is to spread the tourist load which tends inevitably to be concentrated in and around the Piazza San Marco. So far he has not succeeded, with the result that the exhibition is virtually deserted, which does mean that it can be visited in comfort, however.

It has to be admitted that, although it contains some marvellous things, it does not really work as an exhibition, partly because it occupies the ground and second floors, creating an uneasy sense of dislocation in the visitor, but also because so many crucial pictures are absent, notably the two great pastoral scenes painted for Marshal Schulenburg and now divided between Cologne and Chicago. The location too proves somewhat inauspicious, although Daniela Ferretti's elegant high-tech metal frame provides a versatile and unobtrusive background, particularly to the ground floor *portego*, where she has chosen a pale cream lightweight fabric which has been hung pleated.

Here are displayed the master's earliest works, in the



Essential light relief in Capella's *Fortitude*

company of others by his contemporaries, including G. B. Tiepolo's *Sacrifice of Isaac* from the Church of the Ospedaleto, and by his teachers, the first of whom was Antonio Molinari, a large, somewhat conventional altarpiece by whom has been brought from the Church of San Moisè. Much more influential on his development was a sojourn in Bologna, where he came into contact with Giuseppe Maria Crespi and almost certainly became his pupil. Crespi's monumental *Aeneas, the Sybil and Charon*, painted

about 1697 for Prince Eugene of Savoy and now in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, was clearly in Piazzetta's mind when he was making his contribution to a series of Apostles commissioned for the Church of San Stae. This *Martyrdom of St James* is displayed at the entrance to the main exhibition area on the second floor, together with four others from the set by Sebastiano Ricci, Pellegrini, Pittari and G. B. Tiepolo.

Here, in a series of high rooms with beamed ceilings and amazing Mannerist chimney-pieces, the most important pictures compete with vast Murano chandeliers and wall-hung with modern damask in a wide range of very nasty colours. The designer's own feeling for colour has not immediately deserted her, so that one of the most moving pictures in Venice, Piazzetta's altarpiece from the Gesual Church, is bang against a green the colour of damp moss, thus completely killing its wonderfully cool tonality of black, white and grey, where in Michael Levey's words (*Painting in XVIII Century Venice*, 1959), "he makes more effective contrast than would another painter with a whole rainbow of colours".

It is also in much better condition than most of Piazzetta's earlier works, to which he used a red bolus ground which had taken its revenge on the paint surface, virtually burning it away from beneath. This is also true of the *Alexander contemplating the body of Darius* (Ca' Rezzonico) and the

Had time allowed and Mr Levis not amble rather, one would have liked to have heard a little more about his personal philosophy, about why he declined a knighthood, about his view of the non-art world.

Saturday also saw the beginning of the multi-national production of Graham Greene's *Heart of the Matter* on Channel 4, scripted by Gerald Savory in collaboration with Marco Leto, who also directed, with Jack Hedley as the God-bounded Scobie and Erica Rogers as his limpid, literary wife Louise.

At this pace it seems a tall order to fit into four parts but the first episode certainly established the West African colonial atmosphere of gloom, sweat and the prickly beat of bell-fire in the offing. It should be interesting to see whether Jack Hedley, much in control in this early round, has the necessary angst for a fight to the finish with the Almighty.

Dennis Hackett

The Dream
Covent Garden

Miss Julie
Coliseum

On Saturday Rudolf Nureyev completed his eighth annual festival at the Coliseum and the Royal Ballet reached the halfway mark in its brief summer season. At Covent Garden there were two important debuts in *The Dream*, Michael Coleman, who has been turning increasingly to the clown's roles in the repertory, played Bottom, and as usual he found some new touches, notably the way he boogied his ass's back against a tree to clear his sight or mind of an illusion when Titania first made eyes at him.

I liked, too, the way he made a virtue of necessity by introducing a new, skilful walk between passages of pot-pot-work, presumably because he is less sure of that (usually woman's) technique than the role's originator, Alexander Grant. Even more welcome was a lack of innovation at some moments: he clearly remembers the seriousness Grant found for his awakening, and did not spoil it with irrelevant jokes.

The other debut was that of Simoo Rice, one of last year's new-recruits, as Puck. Although a bigger jump would be helpful at times, he is neat, speedy, personable and amusing; better than many recent interpretations, but Stephen Sheriff, who took the part earlier in the week, was better still, dancing with an explosive vivacity and high humour.

It is a relief this season to have a younger cast of lovers, but they are not yet making the most of their roles. Saturday's Titania, Jennifer Penney, danced

Dance

beautifully though with not much sense of character; Wayne Eagling as Oberon provides both a strong, sharp authority and an incisive grasp of the solos.

The Dream is long for a one-act ballet (52 minutes), but everything in it is relevant so it does not feel too long. *Dances of Albiou*, in the same programme, is seven minutes shorter but seems interminable. That is because, just, it offers a different, sufficient ballet in the first half, to Britten's *Serenade* for tenor, horn and strings. Glen Tetley insists on running straight into the *Sinfonia da requiem* and compounds that musical barbarism by having nothing fresh to say, only repeating bits of his favourite choreographic devices. Committed performances by Lesley Collier, Stephen Jeffries and their colleagues cannot make it look other than self-indulgent excess.

Their final performances at the Coliseum found Nureyev and Ballet Theatre Français to fine form. One of Nureyev's most attractive qualities is that he never freewheels, but always pushes his remarkable gifts to their limits. On Saturday one of the company's principals, Alexandra Wells, took the title part in *Miss Julie*. Even more than her unusually old-fashioned Victorian miss in *Spectre de la rose*, this showed a marked individual talent.

The changes of mood became vivid: spitefulness, envy, reluctance, gloating pride and a fearful hope even in her shame were the mainsprings of a bold characterization. Nureyev's Jean, a man wholly on the make, and Francois Dubuc's subtle, entirely human Kristin both became better for having this performance to play against.

John Percival

Rock

Dire Straits
Hammersmith Odeon

Few rock groups depend as heavily for success on an intimate engagement with the emotions of the listener as Dire Straits, so it is a particular pleasure that they have managed, as a part of their rise to enormous international celebrity, to scale up their music to fit the huge arenas in which they are now obliged to perform. Last Christmas they conquered the aircraft-hanger ambience and dodgy acoustical response of Wembley Arena; on Saturday evening they made Hammersmith Odeon feel like the Marquee.

This is one of the measures of their maturity. Four years ago, at the time their second album was released, the Odeon was too big for them: the original quartet contorted itself into cliché and completely unsuitable rock-star postures in order to seem larger than life. Now, after a couple of personnel changes and with the vital addition of two keyboard players, they are able to relax. Superlative lighting, devised by Chas Hetherington with more than a nod (in the pin-spots and the subdued washes) to the Springsteen concerts of 1981, and amplification which combines power with absolute clarity provide a drama which allows the musicians to be themselves.

They began with "Once Upon a Time in the West", easing into the concert with an extended arrangement featuring beautifully varied riffs and humorous kick-beats signalled by Mark Knopfler, their leader, singer, guitarist and songwriter.

In all the years of watching guitarists, from Hank B. Marvin

to James Blood Ulmer, I have never seen anyone more at home with the instrument than Knopfler. His secrets are his melodic sense, which lifts every phrase, and his intuitively graceful feeling for space. The most fluently romantic of players, he sets his instrumental lyricism against a flat, rough-brown voice, the tension arising from the subconscious understanding that the guitar expresses emotional nuances beyond the voice's range.

Although Knopfler still writes light-hearted throw-aways, such as "Twisting by the Pool" and "Industrial Disease", his speciality is now the melodramatic set-piece, inspired by Ennio Morricone's soundtracks and by Roy Bittan's keyboard work with the E Street Band. "Funnel of Love" and "Romeo and Juliet" are the best balanced of these; the former ended with the swooning payout so cleverly used in the juke-box sequence of *An Officer and a Gentleman*; the latter moved, via a stunning synthesizer link, into a lovely reading of "Love Over Gold".

"The Sultans of Swing" was turned into a blazing guitar feature, while "Portobello Belle", with the addition of Mel Collins on alto saxophone, was described by Knopfler as "Irish reggae", but bore a strong resemblance to the "Caledonia soul" of Van Morrison's recent "Private Investigations" and "Telgraph Road" were the most theatrically staged but, perhaps because of their subject matter, did not quite touch the heart so affectingly. As the house lights came up and the road crew began to dismantle the equipment, the band played us home with Knopfler's music for *Local Hero*: a neat touch.

Richard Williams

See Front Page

Are You A Bore?

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

No stamp required in U.K.

Jagger: a butterfly reaches 40

By Pete Townshend

Tomorrow Mick Jagger, singer of the Rolling Stones, will be 40 years old. Apart from the fact that 40 is a nice round number, it also signifies the twentieth year of the Stones' career. Looking for a maxim suitable to open an article in which I will try hard to find some reason why these events should be of interest, I came across a Proverb (22:6) in the May issue of *Awake*: "Train a boy according to the way for him; even when he grows old he will not turn aside from it."

The reason *The Times* is an appropriate place for me to be airing my thoughts at this telling moment in rock history is that on June 30, 1967, my group, The Who, took an advertisement in the *Evening Standard* to protest against the savage sentences meted out to Mick Jagger and Keith Richards for possession of drugs. We really thought we were going out on a limb, attracting the attention of the police and the press, and probably opening ourselves up for similar husts.

On the following day, however, *The Times* went one better. The Editor himself, William Rees-Mogg, wrote a leading article - now legendary in rock music circles - titled "Who Breaks A Butterfly On A Wheel?" Its demands that Jagger should be treated like any other young man, and that tolerance and equity should be a part of our traditional values of justice, were vital. I am pretty sure that without it Jagger

and Richards would have stayed in gaol. It's sad to say that with or without the editorial (or the Rolling Stones), drug abuse would still be a problem among young people today.

The importance of our celebrities' behaviour in private and public, and the responsibilities involved in reporting that behaviour, is something I want to try to get to grips with here, having just waded through five or six biographies of debatable value. Jagger has lived for a long time at the spearhead of the rock business, examined and vilified, coveted and glorified. He has been paid well, and can certainly exercise power within society and among his friends. His charisma seems to have effected a peculiar unanimity of approach among his biographers: they have always concentrated on his wilder, glamorous attributes, even though his fortieth birthday sees him more mature, less mysterious, more affable and less self-indulgent. Because Jagger is a rock star we are a little surprised by the idea that he might slow down and round out like everyone else in the world at middle age, but remember the proverb... there is no one to whom it can more perfectly be applied than Jagger.

Back, then, to the biographies and press clippings: there must be something there that explains why it is so significant that Mick Jagger is 40 years old.



Jagger (left) with Townshend: can rock stars still act like adolescents when they are suffering from mid-life crises?

MATTHEW EVANS, chairman of Faber and Faber, says "he must be at least 42". That's bow old Matthew is, and he was in Jagger's class at the LSE. My wife remembers that at one of Mick's birthday parties in Chelsea several years ago there was some doubt as to how old he was meant to be even then. Why does anyone care? Not only because Mick Jagger is a rock star (can they still act like adolescents when they are suffering from mid-life crises?) but also because he is a celebrity. We all know exactly what a celebrity is: someone like David Frost, Liza Minnelli or George Best. They become total celebrities only when trying to do something absurd like get married, deal with a drink problem or face a court case of some sort.

I have known Jagger since 1963 or '64. Our relationship is fairly distant and although we call ourselves friends, we are not in the traditional sense so. Mick is often described as lonely, but I don't think he is. One of the obstacles to the deepening of his older friendships is his constant movement. He was wriggling like an eel when I first laid eyes on him. Having heard all about this splendid animal from the girls at my art college, I saw him face to hum for the first time at St Mary's Ballroom in Putney in the winter of 1963, where the Stones were doing a show to promote their first single, "come on," and we, The Who, were their support.

Mick was doing the Twist at the side of the stage. It was a satirical version of the dance: he was throwing his gangling arms from side to side, pursing his lips and making the girls around him laugh. His hum, such as it is, was thrust out like a baboon's. We all laughed. The curtains were closed; in front of them, the audience nur band had unnecessarily tried to warm up were already screaming. Jagger knew everyone was watching, so he hammed it up a little bit more, getting his blood and adrenalin flowing for the show. Before the curtains even opened he was at full tilt - a complete exhibitionist.

Jagger once claimed, as I have done, that he had thought about becoming a journalist before he became a musician. I have the feeling that far nce in my life I am getting to the post first. In most other respects, Jagger beat me to it. He heard rhythm and blues before I did, played it before I did, made a million before I did, went to America before I did, got takeo for a flou by Alan Klein before I did, met Robert Fraser before I did, tried LSD, DMT, cocaine, marijuana, and so on before I did. He probably had a hundred groupies before I even poured one a polite drink back in the Holiday Inn. But I have stopped living for rock and roll before he has.

Living in Ealing in 1963, I used occasionally to see the Stones as they gathered near the Ealing Club to go off to Soho for rehearsals. They were staggering to look at, even to an art student like me who had seen lots of men with long hair and had even met a junkie or two. When I first saw Jagger close up on stage at Putney, I thought I

would never see anyone like him again. Yet these days, when I drive through London or any urban area, I see dozens of strikingly beautiful and dangerous-looking men and women, boy and girls. Hair cut draatically nr razored to the scalp; clothes hritile and improvised; changing daily in colour and cut. Having once stood out so far from the crowd, I often wonder if Jagger will suffer (as Olivier is said to have suffered) if youthful beauty flees in late middle age. Will he remain a great charismatic singer and dancer, but have to make do without the pure shock-wapon of animal beauty? One of his friends said that Jagger's beauty was his owner's greatest joy.



Is he really a ruthless, scheming, vain, duplicitous, sex-mad, cowardly swine?

I spent so much of my youth wanting to look striking nr beautiful that it was years before I realized that I was not exactly average looking, and not exactly ugly. I know now, approaching 40 myself, that the way a person looks is really not at all important, but when I am with Jagger I do love to look at him. He is still very beautiful in my eyes; much has been said of his "androgynous" attraction, and I suppose my response to his physical presence confirms all that. Jagger is also such a charismatic person that he could easily make you forget his looks. I cannot forget, though, the way Jagger looked on the stage at St Mary's Ballroom in Putney. A gangly young man doing the Twist inspired me to commit myself completely to the rock and roll stage.

Wading through all the biographies about Jagger and the Stones, I get the feeling I am reading only what the biographers expected would be remembered. If, like Tony Sanchez, they are close enough to the band for their memories to be accurate, all they seem to be able to remember are scoring the drugs and being a "comfort" to neglected girlfriends. If, like Carey Scofield, they are too young to have had first-hand knowledge, they tend simply to read everyone else's books and the collected press cuttings. (She poses glamorously on her own book jacket opposite Jagger - a peculiarly sullen girl.) What I want to say here in contrast is something fresh and vital,

but without abusing my relationship with Jagger.

The relationships between rock stars are peculiar. Jagger and David Bowie are two of the few people in the mainstream of rock to whom I can talk in the knowledge that they understand precisely what I mean when I talk about pressure, creative problems or irritations with the press. I am anxious, therefore, not to alienate Jagger. Nevertheless, there are a few secrets about him that I can make known here. Forget the Mars bars and the French whores (mentioned as "rumours" in every biography and duly repeated here); what about all the insignificant but still really irritating habits he has? Like picking at the edges of Sellotape rolls until they just will not work? Or waiting until the chocolate digestives are totally melted before peeling one off, leaving the rest of the packet sodden? Or running his fingers around the tps of champagne glasses and making them ring piercingly? He is also a terrible name-dropper. Once on Concorde he pointed out to me that Britt Ekland was travelling a few rows ahead without make-up. Jagger does have hundreds of small, worrying faults like these, but none of the incredibly beautiful women that fill his life seems to care.

Another fact, emphasized constantly in the biographies, that I feel I have to dive-bomb is the way Jagger and, later, Keith Richards have been prepared to sacrifice anyone around them for success and control of the band. Aspects of this contention could be true: when Brian Jones was being edged out of the band, I remember how much he seemed to want my friendship he, was insecure and lonely. But in order to get Jagger's and Richards' apparent brutality into scale, I must repeat a story about my farm master at grammar school.

In the last term (1960) I had taken to wearing my navy-blue blazer adorned with breakfast cereal droppings and egg yolk. The headmaster had asked me to take a little more pride in my appearance. "For heaven's sake, Townsend, couldn't you just wipe a damp cloth over it every now and then? You look like you've been dropped into a dustbin." My form master felt there was more to my lack of pride than met the eye. He took me aside one day. "Townsend," he said meaningfully, "I know why you leave egg stains on your jacket, milk dribbles in the lap of your grey flannels and tea stains on your shirt. Shall I tell you why you do it?" He asked me in such a way that I had no choice but to request illumination, so I asked, "Yes, sir. Please do." "Because, Townsend, it's your perverted way of saying to the world, 'Look at me - I'm dangerous!'" I was confused. "Dangerous, sir? Having egg yolk on my blazer?" "Yes, Townsend, you believe it makes you look dangerous."

I really did not understand what he was saying, believing instead that he was being deeply ironic. The penny dropped when I told a friend of Edwardian inclinations about it, and he said that the master had told him the same thing - in his case, that he dressed like a Teddy Boy because it made him look dangerous. In fact he had taken every single boy in the class aside during that last term and told them that they looked the way they did because they wanted to appear dangerous - even those who were very, very neat and conventional. We were all very impressed with our master's

perspicacity. We all were, of course, quite dangerous-looking, we knew that. Practically the whole of the Stones' image is rooted in this rather boyish philosophy: that people will believe you are what you believe you appear to be. Some people close to the Stones say that Keith Richards is genuinely as he appears to be: bearing in mind some of the terrifying stories I could tell about him, that is a possibility. But is Mick Jagger really the ruthless, conniving, duplicitous, scheming, evil-touched, money-greedy, sex-mad, cowardly, vain, power-bungy swine his biographers and the newspaper hounds have made him out to be?

Do people who claim to know Jagger talk about him and expand on all these awful ideas about him because they really don't feel their opinions or their treachery matter to him? Does no one feel close enough to him to keep his mouth shut? I, for example, have spilled all about Jagger's disgusting habit of name-dropping at every opportunity - and there is a strong possibility that I am a very important friend to him. I don't really think so; but it's possible. People like Jagger need people like me: I may be a gossiping, back-biting sycophant, but at least I don't interfere with the other sycophants. The truly sycophantic are no really dangerous. The dangerous ones are those "close friends" who become obsessed to protect their famous buddies from the sycophants they see all around. They see their



In most respects, he beat me to it. But I have stopped living for rock before he has

famous friends being exploited, given drugs and being seduced by beautiful women who really only want money. So, with only their famous compatriot's goodwill in mind, they intercede, they advise and warn. When their well-meant good advice is ignored, they scuttle off to the nearest newspaper and tell all; in particular, how their own compassionate care was wasted and unrequited.

So much for friends - but, incredibly, many journalists also feel they have a privileged relationship with Jagger. He is so courteous and gentlemanly that, even though he is well known for fielding any and every direct question he does not like, someone interviewing him will feel

they have set up a very real rapport and come close to the real man behind the image.

It is only the conceit of these pathetic individuals that prevents me from feeling totally sympathetic with them - after all, it is not so different believing oneself to be a close friend of Mick's when in fact one is kept hanging on purely because one has some value to him of which one is unaware. How can someone believe himself to be Mick's friend when choosing to make a living writing about him, buying his drugs, relieving his sexual desire, driving his car and answering his phone for him?

When you talk to someone at home, by the fire or in bed, you really do not imagine, even if you are Mick Jagger, that 10 years later you will see that person's rough idea of the way the conversation went, printed as though it was a verbatim transcription of a tape recording made at the time. Imagine the scene. You are Mick's girlfriend, one of the few he really cared for. You have just made love. Mick says to you, "I love you." You get out your pencil and scribble it down, just in case. I suppose everyone in the public eye goes through this. I regard it as humiliation, and because I know Mick it hurts me too. It hurts me especially because no one ever hnters to show any interest in what I said to my girlfriend after we made love 15 years ago. I have to spread my own malicious rumours about myself.

I only want to celebrate my friend's fortieth birthday, to rally one and all to do the same. To avoid judging either his complexion or his waistline, his future or his past, his genius or his despotism, I want to ask everyone to turn away from the biographies and their serializations written by friends cast aside, journalists in newspaper cuttings libraries and simple hacks in the make. Degas said that everyone has talent at 25 but the difficulty is having it at 50. Mick will still be beautiful when he is 50, still one of the original rock writers who discovered the new song form that embodied a width of human passion only before contained in poetry. His talents will be as strong at 50 as they are today at 40 because his ambition is not dependent on his youth, his song writing in the rock genre is not dependent on his own suffering and his drive to be popular and loved is not dependent on his personal insecurity.

I believe that rock music is art, especially because it attempts to share passion rather than demonstrate stances. Everyone has his own definition of art and mine is neatly contained in the song form that emerged in pop music during the early 1960s. At some point I would enjoy taking up another of your mantrings justifying my claim, but despite the fact that I believe Mick Jagger to be a significant and genuinely inspired artist who often creates great work, the whole precept would probably bore Jagger himself, so I will desist.

He sees himself as an entertainer, thus a servant of sorts. And yet it still serves us well to remember, on the fortieth birthday of this successful man, that William Rees-Mogg in 1967 entreated us "to ensure that Mr Jagger is treated the same as anyone else, no better and no worse."

So I shall invite him down to the pub, buy him a pint, talk about how well he always does his job, and never mention the old days again.

moreover... Miles Kington
Vive l'indifference

Nobody remains indifferent to the music of Wagner, wrote Bernard Levin the other day; even if you don't love it, you find yourself hating it. I fell into a reverie when I read these words, as I often do at the beginning of an article on Wagner, and started doing something else: namely, reflecting on the number of times in my life I had been told that I would either hate or love, but not be indifferent to, something.

Among the things with such magical power of attraction or repulsion are: mushrooms, spinach, Victorian architecture, sailing, the novels of Henry Green, *The Goon Show*, oysters, New York, Pernod, malt whisky, ballet, jazz, science fiction, the cooties of Dorset, the people of Wales, the ex-pupils of Winchester, the music of Stravinsky, Maltesers, the smell of chrysanthemums, crosswords, the kind of people who play Rugby, Scottish country dancing, smoked salmon and Scrabble.

Reflecting on this list, I discovered that the "either you hate or love" theory is absolutely crackers. Almost everything on it is something I quite like. Or like sometimes but not others. Or like some of, but not all of. Even the three things I like most on the list - jazz, malt whisky and *The Goon Show* - sometimes leave me quite cold.

Take oysters. I can remember distinctly the first time I ate an oyster. Ten years ago, when William Davis was editor of *Punch* and I was his underling, someone sent him a crate of oysters which, with typical generosity, he shared out among the staff who had not yet gone home. I was the only one left in the building - I had probably just arrived for work - and he brandished a dripping mollusc at me. "Like oysters?" he roared.

"I don't know. I've never had one."

He goggled. It was rather like never having travelled first class on a plane.

"Well, have one. You'll either hate it or love it."

I had one. It was quite nice.

"Well?"

"It's... all right."

Fatal. When someone tells you it's a love-or-hate object, he's very hurt to be told it's all right, and nothing more. Jazz and Wagner lovers don't mind people hating jazz and Wagner; it's taking it or leaving it they can't stand. I imagine that God is infuriated by agnosticism more than anything else.

When it came to sailing, I was wiser. I got mixed up in a sailing crowd five years ago. Oh, you'll either hate it or love it, they told me. It sounded silly. I knew that meant I'd quite like it. In fact, the truth about sailing, as I later found out, was that you love it; but not till afterwards, and I can still remember tossing around in a yacht one night near the end of a cross-Channel trip to Le Havre.

It was wet and cold and rough, and everyone had retired below except me and the captain. Brian, we took it in turns to watch the lights of Le Havre get no nearer. Big ships came past, ignoring us, waves came past ignoring us, the lights of Le Havre ignored us.

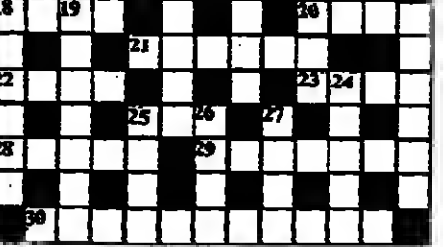
It took us five very long hours, to beat through the combined indifference of the elements to moor in Le Havre at after 2 am, and the whole experience was dreadful. But before I went to sleep I said to myself: "In the morning, I'm going to think back and say that it was quite an enjoyable experience. I must remember that it was ootling of the kind."

I don't sail any more, and I don't miss it much, and I never did love or hate Wagner, and I don't miss that much either. The trouble with me is something that is unimaginable to the opera-lover: I am left cold by the convention of classical singing. I find the kind of voice used in opera or lieder highly artificial and unappealing, just as other people find nothing to enjoy in the saxophone, the cello, the electric guitar or brass bands. On the one occasion I was taken to hear part of *The Ring*, I sat transfixed by what George Solti was doing with the orchestra, but went to sleep every time I transferred my attention to the stage.

I felt as distanced from what they were doing as I expect I would from a Japanese Noh play.

I am told that you either hate or love Japanese Noh plays. Well, I have been told so often that I will hate or love something that by now I can take it or leave it. The main thing to remember is to say that you either hate or love it. It's agnostics like me that people can't stand.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 110)



- ACROSS: 1 Disabled (11), 9 Ideal (7), 10 Horse cry (5), 11 Undercover agent (3), 13 Sicilian volcano (4), 16 Ill-mannered person (4), 17 Occult doctrine (6), 18 Best of burden (4), 20 Furry skin (4), 21 Clergyman (6), 22 Ice expanse (4), 23 Sultan (4), 25 Not him (3), 28 Rub out (5), 29 Herring-like fish (7), 30 Sulphuric bomb (5,6).
- DOWN: 2 Decorate (5), 3 Fall in drops (4), 4 Tins (4), 5 Small horse (4), 6 Example (7), 7 Self-service store (6), 8 Bad humour (5,6), 12 Building support (6), 14 Winning serve (3), 15 Mentally slow (6), 19 Ancestral descent (7), 20 Dowel (3), 24 Fribbing (5), 25 Great warmth (4), 26 Pay Corps (1,1,1,1), 27 Tablecloth (4).

SOLUTION TO No 109
ACROSS: 1 Crackle, 5 Forum, 8 A do, 9 Rancour, 10 Lives, 11 Idol, 12 Hoodlum, 14 Maladjustment, 16 Uptown, 18 Room, 21 Ad lib, 22 Equator, 23 Lam, 24 Thyme, 25 Ethical.
DOWN: 1 Carr, 2 Awmed, 3 Knowledgeable, 4 Earth, 5 Follow through, 6 Revalue, 7 Messmate, 13 Ambulant, 15 Legally, 17 Theme, 19 Antic, 20 Oral.

صدا من الامل



A sideways look at the British way of life

Just declare my aversion to the telephone answering machine, and suggest that I am not so. To me it has always seemed to be the ironic equivalent of having the front door opened to you by a filing cabinet, which is not an experience I relish, even at the swiftest of schelds. For a start, the instant nature of the phooce gives it a certain informality, which is why rooked upon by the usually stiff and freezing stung locked into the other end. Observe how even the fastest-talking of your mds slumps to the drear pace of thirty three and a half rpm; mark how depersonalized his once spy gambit has become; note how he himself become all things to all men, acknowledging pulsive calls from sons and lovers alike with a gle uniform: "I am afraid Mr Franks is out in at moment. If you would care to leave your message, he will..." Oh shut up. In short, see how a bloodless piece of technology makes Ian McDonalds of Robert Robinsons. It is an

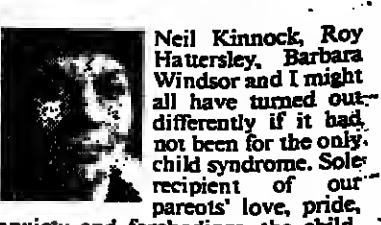
unattractive alchemy, and I want nothing to do with it. I know that apologists for the machine will tell you that it is splendid ally in the war on waste, that you can maximize your use of the hours in the day by "being available" at all times; and I have no doubt that in the commercial context this is true. Manufacturers and retailers will tell you that once their users have overcome their early misgivings about installing these aliens on the premises, they soon come to wonder how they ever conducted their businesses without them. All of which may be true, but does not overcome the caller's problem of being confronted by a vocal disembodiment of the person he seeks. How are you to cope with the once garrulous colleague who has suddenly taken it into his head to say: "Please speak slowly and please speak oow. Beep?" Just as there are ground rules for the owner of the machine, so there are patterns of response among callers. There is, for example, the refusnik, the caller who simply refuses, showjumper-fashion, to attempt the communicative hurdle. The machine beeps and he hangs up. This has substantial annoyance value against the user, as some machines, particularly the older varieties, can be mechanically thrown by such non-co-operation. Moreover, the owner returns to find mere silence where he had hoped for some earnest of a meal or a deal. For him this is the equivalent of opening an envelope with a portentous postmark only to

discover a blank sheet of paper inside. The most dedicated of refusniks argue that their tactic has the merit of trading anonymity for anonymity and are universally unpopular with users. Then there is the wag, also, a tiresome customer, who attempts levity or irreverence who his solemn cues sounds. The wag falls into a number of categories; these include the fellow who tries to pass himself off as an answering machine: "Mr X regrets he is unable to speak to telephone answering machines and will call again in the hope of finding you in. Beep." Of course, the wag's clothes have been stolen to some extent by those users who attempt to huminize the whole procedure by their "jokey" recordings. See Oz Clarke below. In America this is all getting quite out of hand. Unsavoury greetings abound, such as this one, *à la* Mario Puzo: "Ring back pronto, schmuck or I'll send the boys round to break both yer legs." Then there is the smoothie, usually a bit of a technician himself, who enters into the spirit of the game. He has oo compunctioo about twirling on his revolving chair and MacDonald-speaking his memorandum into the void. Indeed, he relishes the act, in-feeding the hour of his call (24-hour clock ref. of course), place of origin, and spray of pos oos where contactable. He is user's friend umber one, the fellow who makes it all worthwhile, and *entre nous*, a bit of a creep. Like it or not, the answering machine is proliferating. People call them answerphones, but

that is, strictly speaking, a solecism. It is like calling vacuum cleaners Hoovers, for Ansafoe is ooe manufacturer among many, the senior rival in a field swelled by British Telecom's relaxation on the sale restrictions of such equipment. The proper generic term for the devices is telephone answering machines, or TAMS for short, and the market has been flooded by, to name but a few brands, Recordcall, Answercall, GMTC '83, Panasonic, Binatone, and Call Jotter. My own favourite mechanical voice, all too soon expunged, is that belonging to the polite young woman at the *Financial Times* information service. Somewhere between the drachma and the yen, things went badly wrong for her, and the cool tones, which seemed to speak of sensible dresses and cucumber sandwiches, gave way to a four-letter expletive in the best Nixonian traditions. The tape went round several times in this condition before the word was deleted, and the brokers of the world were jamming the switchboard in wonder. I phoned her up to congratulate her on her welcome fallibility and she had the grace not to swear at me. Instead she exploded, very unrecordedly, that there had been a technical error. When I asked her what sort, she replied: "The technical error was that I said: '-----'. And then she said it again."

Penny Perrick

One is one and all alone



Neil Kinnock, Roy Hattersley, Barbara Windsor and I might all have turned out differently if it had not been for the only child syndrome. Sole recipient of our parents' love, pride, anxiety and forebodings, the childhood of one and only is constantly under the spotlight, one's every action deemed worthy of notice, whether critical or approving. No wonder, we're different from other people. There is impressive evidence to show that only children get more than their fair share of life prizes, not surprisingly, since they start out with more than their fair share of I attention and encouragement. The only child is becoming increasingly fashionable throughout the western world; already, in Germany, nearly half of all babies are born to women who don't plan on any further visits to the maternity hospital. This trend has been linked to the rise in two-income families, who think that a one-child household won't disrupt the pattern of their working lives unduly. Maybe not, but it will certainly alter the pattern of their emotional one. My own parents had not a moment's peace for fear that my life might pass out of their expert hands. To their full-time paid jobs, they added another, unpaid and quite thankless, of getting me raised to perfection. As I got older, this came to mean shielding me from unsuitable young men, unsuitable, in their book, not necessarily meaning one who was reckless, improvident or uncaring, but one who didn't announce his five-year plan to hand me the sun, moon and stars.

A perfect trinity of mutual love

Iris Murdoch, another only child, said that she and her parents lived in a perfect trinity of mutual love. Others of us live in a hellish threesome of mutual conflict; parents and child horribly obsessed with each other's shortcomings. At the time, I reeked of self-pity, longing to trade in my lone star status for equal hilling among a group of siblings. Decades later, the pity is all for my parents, their whole investment sunk in one sulky daughter. How much nicer for them to have had a choice of child for company. For in a multi-child setup, the temporary vileness of one is offset by the equally temporary delightfulness of another. The rebellious only child, refusing to live by his parents' rules, carries a nagging burden of guilt. By insisting on the right to my own opinions and tastes, I knew I was consigning my parents to oblivion; there were no other inheritors to carry on their point of view. Once, having listened to me make an appeal for funds for the local Labour Party, a friend asked my somewhat conservative mother, "Aren't you proud of her?" "No," said my saddened parent. "I just wonder where I went wrong. Had I had sisters, one of them might have made her happy by turning out like Lady Olga Maitland. Only children do well because we have been brought up to think of ourselves as extra special. The dark side of this coin gives us a dreaded fear of failure. How can we possibly repay all those years of undivided attention by turning out ordinary?"

Only children are good fighters

Only children grow up to be good fighters - we have had years of practice learning to hold on to our own small corner. My best friend grew up in a family of eight. Very easy it was too, she claims, all that teasing and squabbling and having to fight for attention. When we were competing, upbringing, it seems to me that my parents put in more time rearing the single apple of their eye than hers ever did on bringing up their huge brood. Perhaps parenthood, like practically everything else, obeys Parkinson's Law - "work expands to fill the time available" and all those couples planning an economy-sized single child family are not going to find it a very time-saving operation after all.

A fast-dwindling dot on Telly

If anyone is in a position to say, "I told you so," it is Professor Gerry Mander who, several years ago suggested that, since there was no evidence to prove that television was beneficial, it should be pronounced A Bad Thing, along with hard drugs and lead in petrol. Since then, his views have been vindicated by one report, "Popular TV and Schoolchildren," published by the Department of Education and another, on equally damning lines, to be published soon, written by the Dean of Oxford Polytechnic. Last week, the USA reported that it had had nearly twice as many letters of complaint about television programmes last year than in the previous one. Even so, Professor Mander's remedy that television should simply be banned, seems a little drastic as well as unnecessary.

CORRECTION
The name of the chairman of the Henley Regatta Committee of Management, Mr Peter Coni, QC, was misspelt in Modern Times, June 27. Oarsman Chris Baillieu attended Radley, not Radcliff.

What's my line ?

Bleephone

Viki Jones (below)
Advertisement production manager

Howard Davies and I live in the same house so we share the answering machine. We change message quite a lot - I say "we", it Howard hasn't done one for a while... it's time he had a go. He id one very good message but it got accidentally wiped... The first we both talked, Howard saying "This is..." and my voice saying "Howard Davies" and vice versa. I had something about the fact that we shared the same address and answering machine - if nothing else, that was quite funny. Then there was one where I answered in a kind

of Swap Shop voice - breathless and keen. Lots of people answered back in similar voices. Now I do a rather hysterical one, all in a rush, pleading with the caller not to ring off just because it's a machine. Perhaps it's time for a change again: I like doing lots of different accents; I hope it will be funny. The trouble is, if you're too clever it baffles people and they don't say anything at all, when we first had the machine we played around with it a lot and used to come home every evening to see the red light - and listen to lots of bleeps. My father is very funny; he leaves a very stiff, formal message saying "This is your father speaking". But the trouble with funny messages is that they're only funny with friends or people who know you; people who don't might by put off and leave no message at all!



Songphone

Shella Staeffel (below)
Comedienne

I suppose I've had a machine for - himey, let's see - five years! I need it because I work strange hours and I'm rarely here to receive calls - which is how one gets a lot of work. This (message) is Mark IV. Kind of you to say you like it (She sings a rhyme and plays a spinette, made by her father in South Africa; this could be true but is in fact delightful) I hope it amuses, though I'm not sure about the VAT office and my agent's secretary can't stand it - she leaves the receiver on her desk until I've finished, then leaves me a rather cute message. And a BBC producer with whom I'm doing a couple of radio shows left a message saying "the first thing we'll do is commission someone to write you a new message." However, I like it - and if it works it's because presenting yourself at one remove, singing for example, gives the other person a chance to collect himself and respond. With the straight, spoken message, people often sound totally unnatural. And it's a little hard to believe that a machine actually winks. People often ring off, ring back, to check that it is you, then

write down a reply. Actors find it easier because they're trained to pretend out loud but your average person feels very silly talking into a machine. I hope all the messages have been quite funny - I had the dogs barking on one, then Mark III was a kind of fast dialogue between me and the bloke who was living with me at the time but isn't any more. This one has produced some delightful songs - Harrods for example, ringing to tell me that my shoes are in.



Smilephone

Mike Webster (above)
Marketing Director, Answering Ltd

I've no wish to knock answering machines; if they suit you that's fine. In our experience, however, seven out of 10 people who ring and find an answering machine, ring off - and it is infuriating not to know who called, when and why. We provide the personal touch and we can elicit a response from a caller, even one who is reluctant to give one. Our operators are all taught the basic training code - to remember the three Ws who called, what they wanted and where they can be reached. We select our staff by interview, but we don't necessarily look for trained telephone operators (it's



Loonyphone

Jonathan Hodge (right)
Jingle writer and artist's model

I've got into a lot of trouble with my machine message. At my old recording studio the three of us went on holiday at the same time because the air-conditioning had conked out. I left an "ello 'ello, 'owin' to a modification in our ventilation system we've had to scarp to sunnier climes... message, using lots of mechanical jargon. (I said I'd go to the Caribbean because it sounded better than Majorela.) Three weeks later when I returned it was to be met by a large policeman at Gatwick Airport, where I was held for questioning. It seems that lots of people had rung and got the message and passed the number on to their friends. One was a flight engineer on a 707 who took it into his head that it was a bomb scare in code (there were lots about at the time). It took a long time explaining to the Old Bill that there was nothing sinister in the message: They even held up the Jumbo until they were sure. We put on sensible messages after that, for a while. Then I couldn't resist doing another "ello 'ello, this is a hurglar speakin'... there's no-one 'ere at



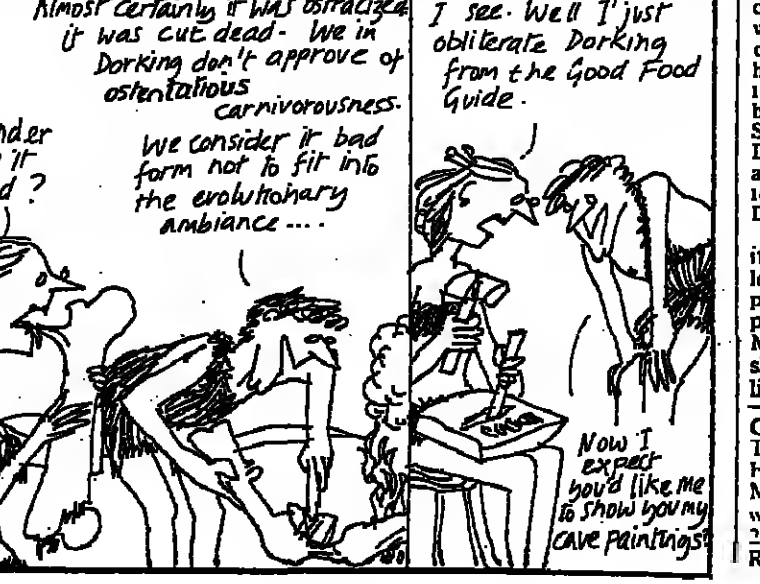
present but if you don't tell the occupants, I'll leave your name and number with this nice arrestin' officer." A bit of a goof; we got a lot of people worried and another rollicking from the law. Now I've got one where I sort of blow a fanfare, give the name of the company in a kind of "Roll up, roll up" voice, ask them to leave a message and do another fanfare. You can talk for hours if you want because it's voice activated.



Babblephone

Oz Clarke (above)
Actor and wine writer

I'm just a red-bearded, Irish, wine-loving, tennis-playing actor/writer who likes the freedom an answering machine gives - and who can't resist the chance of a few gags. Let me see if I can remember some of them. Well, I went to Australia in February so naturally when I got back Les Patterson answered the phone with "gedday" and a lot of chat - then I was in France, and oo my return he was still answering, talking about the land of the garlic caisers and all those oasy gallic charhiss... And then their's one character I'm particularly fond of, Sir Deirdre Spittle - he's always drunk and has to be helped out by Cyril, a king of butler figure with a Donald Sinden sort of persona. They have a wonderful relationship. Sir Deirdere is always terribly slurred - says things like "Le beajoulois nouveau esi arrive" (when has clearly already had six bottles of the stuff). I did try it straight once, said something like "This is Oz Clarke's serious message..." but I just couldn't carry it off. And then I melted the machine drying it in front of a fire and I was mortified, so then we had a "requiem for my machine. I get lots of shrieks and giggles and camp messages - and some brilliant ones. British Telecom used to ring up a lot. There were 32 messages one morning, 25 from BT, most of them saying "just wanted to listen to your message." Just now, I'm a crossed line.



Judy Froshaug

FLAVIA CORKSCREW'S GOOD FOOD GUIDE

FALLING ASLEEP OVER THE NEWSPAPER, FLAVIA DREAMS THAT GERARD MANLY HAS INVITED HER TO THE WORLD'S FIRST BARBECUE, IN PREHISTORIC SURREY...

... So glad you could come to our little day-pit warming party, Flavia. Have a chocolate-covered ant.

Look, we're barbecuing an unknown carnivore! It was lying at the bottom of the ice-age, and it's label had fallen off.

Don't you like your claw? Throw it over your shoulder, and try this spare rib... or spare something. Scientists have yet to identify it.

Almost certainly it was ostracized. It was cut dead. We're in Dorking don't approve of ostentatious carnivorousness. We consider it bad form not to fit into the evolutionary ambience....

I see. Well I just obliterate Dorking from the Good Food Guide.

Chocolate! How could you ruin a delicious ant in that way?

Now I expect you'd like me to show you my cave paintings!

THE TIMES DIARY

Key of C and D?

Leonard Bernstein wants musicians all over the world to demonstrate for nuclear disarmament by wearing sky-blue armbands on August 25, his sixty-fifth birthday.

London's burning

Londoners spend a lot of time craving hot weather, but on the rare occasions when the real thing comes, they are nonplussed and really rather wish it would go away.

Whale of a time

There is consternation among conservationists at Brighton, where the International Whaling Commission's annual quota-fixing has for four years treated the town to displays of all the paraphernalia of up-market mammalian preservation.

A firm of investment advisers is urging that we put our money into proven losers. The worst-performing fund in one year is often among the best in the next year.

Away days

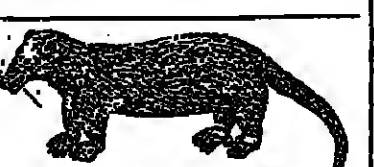
Sunsets, the holiday people, have been asking the rich and famous how they relax. The Prime Minister likes to read thrillers, Lord Weinstock recommends wedding and Sir Harold Wilson fancies a pint at his local.

Sidetracked

A traveller wanting to avoid the sun on a certain Inter-City train from King's Cross to Newark asked to reserve a seat on the left-hand side of the carriage.

The other half

As Alan Franks reported on this page on Saturday, rivalry is intense between television companies engaged on Orwellian projects for 1984.



Australian health authorities are hot on the trail of a killer: sweet and sour possum. Already 700 kilograms of possum meat from Tasmania have been recovered from Chinese restaurants and Asian foodmarkets around Melbourne.

Love thy neighbour - or else

Johannesburg South Africa is once again tightening the screws on tiny Lesotho, the former British protectorate of Basutoland and since 1966 a sovereign member of the Commonwealth.



been flown to safety elsewhere. There are, however, nearly 11,000 South African blacks in exile in Lesotho, which continues to insist stoutly on its right to shelter refugees.

The South Africans responded with a strongly worded Note to the United Nations dismissing Lesotho's allegations and warning that if Chief Jonathan continued to provide sanctuary to terrorists operating against South Africa he should not be surprised if South Africa takes the required action to eliminate them.

This was followed by a remarkable attack on Chief Jonathan in Current Affairs, a usually turgid weekly commentary put out by the South African Broadcasting Corporation which closely reflects government thinking.

About a week later, Charles Mofeli, a leading opposition MP in Maseru, was expelled from Lesotho's parliament for criticizing the ANC presence in his country in an interview with the SABC.

The current hostile phase in relations between South Africa and Lesotho began last December with the South African commando raid on alleged ANC "nests" in Maseru in which 42 people were killed, 12 of them Lesotho civilians.

The pressure being applied takes the form of elaborate security checks on traffic into and out of Lesotho, causing long delays and disruption to the small country's commercial life, which, whether it likes it or not, is an integral part of the South African economy.

The South Africans used the same tactics at the end of May when a bomb explosion in Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, which is separated from Lesotho by the Caledon River.

The agreement quickly foundered. In the second half of June and early July there were reports of a series of clashes between the 1,500-man Lesotho paramilitary force and groups of "bandits", culminating in a two-day battle with 30 gunmen who were said in Maseru, Lesotho's

Chief Jonathan thumbed his nose at the South Africans even more provocatively by touring communist block countries earlier this year and inviting the Soviet Union, China, North Korea, Yugoslavia and Rumania to open embassies in Maseru.

By inviting the Russian bear into the very heart of the laager itself, Chief Jonathan has powerfully reinforced Pretoria's paranoia about Moscow-inspired subversion, and also risked alienating Lesotho's stanchy anti-communist Roman Catholic church, which has the support of about 40 per cent of the population.

Chief Jonathan's defiance of Pretoria has done wonders for his international image. From a tinpot dictator leading one of the most pliant of South Africa's pliant states, he has been transmogrified into an heroic African David battling the white Goliath of apartheid. He has even established a new rapport with Lesotho's King Moshoeshoe, a scholarly recluse whom the Prime Minister stripped of his powers a decade ago.

But it is a dangerous game. Pretoria could crush Lesotho at will, and is perhaps deterred from doing so only by some lingering concern for world opinion. The small kingdom could be throttled to death within weeks if South Africa were to cut off vital supplies.

If economic measures of this kind were not enough to bring Chief Jonathan to heel, there would remain the option of further military action and possibly the engineering of a coup to replace the troublesome chief with someone more to South Africa's liking.

Meanwhile other black states in the region are watching the unequal contest with interest. All are vulnerable too, and dependent on South Africa in varying degrees, and all are hosts, some more reluctant than others, to substantial numbers of South African exiles, many of whom fled abroad in the aftermath of the 1976-77 riots in Soweto and other black townships.

The country whose situation most closely resembles that of Lesotho in Swaziland, which is ideally located as an ANC infiltration route from marxist Mozambique into northern Natal, the eastern Transvaal and the industrial heartland of the Witwatersrand.

No country can feel safe, however. Lesotho could well be a test case of just how far Pretoria is prepared to go in using its military and economic power to bludgeon its neighbours into adopting a more pliant attitude.

Michael Hornsby

Roy Hattersley outlines his objectives if he becomes Labour Party leader

Hard truths we must face to win back our heritage

The Labour Party has a moral duty to win the next general election and to obtain the power that will enable us to build a socialist society in Britain. We must begin at once to rebuild our strength and our reputation.

We can win only if we inspire the idealism of the British people. That requires a further restatement of the socialist principles that will guide us when we are in office. The idea that we have to choose between radicalism and reality, commonsense and socialism, is a view held only by those who do not understand the working class of this country.

The Labour Party cannot afford another long agony of so-called constitutional reform. Last month's defeat was in no small part the result of years of wrangling that we once called "democratic change" and the institutionalized conflict which it created.



spending were barely understood and rarely believed. The idea of "borrowing to expand" proved crucially unpopular. The British people realized that the whole strategy lacked two essential ingredients: a coherent plan for investment and a scheme to combat inflation.

Higher levels of expenditure are essential to our objectives. But a fairer distribution of wealth and power can be achieved by changes in the institutional framework of our divided society. We can improve the status and prospects of the black and Asian British. We can give men and women power over their daily lives by legislation that ranges from elected police authorities to the introduction of industrial democracy.

We can give men and women power over their daily lives

wage for the lowest paid. The slogan "socialism through free collective bargaining" is a contradiction in terms.

We must be wholly frank about the pace of potential recovery. Overstating the speed at which we can put Britain back to work undermines faith in our judgment or our honesty. We must be equally clear about our future spending programmes.

Of course, an increase in public expenditure is an essential feature of both our economic policy and our central objective - the creation of a more equal society. But we cannot meet the immediate demands of

We do not share Margaret Thatcher's view of liberty - the right of the rich and powerful to exploit their wealth and power irrespective of the interests of others. But we must not become the party of regulation and uniformity.

If we are to respect and trust the people, we must begin to listen to their opinions on the policy that lost us most votes at the last election - defence and disarmament. Nobody who canvassed in the last election can harbour any doubt about the damage done to our prospects by the contradiction inherent in our policy as presented in the manifesto.

I am unapologetically the candidate of improvement

Opposition to our policy was intensified by the confusion that surrounded our proposals. We said that Nato remained our protection. But we refused to accept our Nato obligations. We promised effective conventional defence. Yet we insisted that a Labour government would cut the defence budget.

Influential voices in the party will argue against the adjustments in policy and behaviour that must be made if we are to win the election. Some will go so far as to demand that we should not be bound by our own promises. They will genuinely believe that we can succeed in four or five years' time without making any attempt to reflect the hopes and wishes of the men and women whose votes we need for victory.

It was these people - the well-intentioned but misguided - whose advice we followed in June. As a result, we endure another Conservative government: its ruthless assault on public expenditure, its demolition of the health service, its callous disregard for pensioners, its acceptance of massive unemployment as an instrument of economic policy.

I am, therefore, unapologetically the candidate of change and improvement. That does not make me the most comfortable or least controversial of the contestants. But it makes me the candidate of the hard truth. If because of complacency or cowardice we fail to meet the challenge the Party now faces we will have denied our heritage. Indeed we will have betrayed those millions of men and women who look to us to change society - and know that it can only be achieved by a party that wins votes and takes power. They want us to govern Britain and to bring about the more equal society that our philosophy proclaims. That achievement is still within our grasp - but only if we act bravely and begin to act at once.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1983

Tom Wicker

Reagan's backyard pathway to war?

Mexico City Where is the Reagan Administration's hard-line policy against the Sandinista government of Nicaragua taking us? Public opinion in the United States seems not much concerned, but the Mexican Government fears that Reagan's militaristic approach may lead to war between Nicaragua and Honduras at almost any time.

This is not an abstract worry. Commenting on Reagan's new commission on Central America, to be headed by Dr Henry Kissinger, a high Mexican official said the problem was too urgent to wait for the commission's scheduled report in December. War could come before then he said, if the CIA-sponsored Contras continue their incursions into Nicaragua from their sanctuaries in Honduras.

War is clearly in the mind of Daniel Ortega Saavedra, too. As the coordinator of the Sandinista Junta, he warned the Nicaraguan people to prepare for more fighting in a speech marking the fourth anniversary of the revolution that brought the junta to power. Nicaraguan officials have been openly predicting a United States-supported invasion from Honduras.

But that is not the only way war could get out of control on either side. Or Honduras, although they are not believed to be eager to bring on an open clash with the United States. However it begins, in the Mexican view, such a Central American war would be a disaster, and far more of a threat to United States interests and those of other nations in the region than the Sandinista regime - in a small, impoverished country - could ever be. The United States certainly could not remain unengaged in a Nicaragua-Honduras war, so clearly would the United States have to be heavily involved and so great are the dangers. That would not be the best campaign plan for a president who is almost certainly seeking reelection.

Gerald Kaufman Passing the town hall buck

Any day now Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, will publish a White Paper on the future of the rating system. Like most of this Government's secrets, the contents of this forthcoming document have already been profusely leaked. In this case, however, the Prime Minister has no need to set up one of her fruitless investigations. The identity of the culprit is already exposed. He is none other than Mr Jenkin himself who, within the past week, had turned into a Lina Lamont of British politics. It will be recalled that in that cinematic masterpiece *Singin' in the Rain* Miss Lamont, a silent movie star, delivered herself of the significant confession: "I gave an exclusive story to every paper in town". Mr Jenkin has followed that illustrious precedent.

So we know that what the Government has in mind is a system whereby a group of local authorities selected as victims pour encouragement *les autres*, will have their right to fix their own rate levels removed and replaced by government diktat, rubber-stamped by Parliament. This procedure, we are sternly informed, is all in the interests of control of public expenditure. Every government takes a close interest in local government spending, and I have to say that I have come to wonder why. After all, local authority borrowing is already controlled by Whitehall. Even more subject to the Government's wishes is the rate support grant, which is distributed for the express purpose of being spent and whose level is fixed by the Secretary of State.

As for rate-borne expenditure, it is of course balanced exactly by the rates levied on local taxpayers, and so adds precisely nothing in net terms to public expenditure. Rate poundages are a bargain struck between councillors and their electors, and any local authority which levies too high a rate soon finds itself in trouble at the polling booths.

What, then, is all the fuss about? Mr Jenkin has summed it up in remarkable and indeed bizarre fashion. In one of his numerous interviews he has complained that the free exercise by local authorities of their rating powers "erodes the taxable capacity of the nation".

What, presumably, he means by this is that if councils retain liberty to levy their own rates they may be cheeky enough to take too much, leaving insufficient scope for government tax increases. This is an interesting revelation on the inner thought processes of a government ostensibly dedicated to the grand cause of tax reduction.

This month's White Paper is to be followed by a brief period of consultation, with legislation sched-

Cuba's participation in a Central American war, of course, would raise the question of the Soviet Union's response. Even if it were only to send arms and supplies, that would lead to a direct Soviet-American confrontation that no one wants.

Even if the most dangerous side-effects could be averted, the Mexican view is that a Nicaragua-Honduras war would be worse than anything that could be achieved by it. Even if the Nicaraguan regime could be overthrown, which surely could not be done without Cuban and perhaps Soviet intervention having first been overcome, the Sandinistas have made it clear that they would resume guerrilla warfare and perhaps foment it throughout the region.

I do not see a military intervention that will end the conflict in Central America, the Mexican official said. He thought it would bring, instead, a period of turmoil for many years, in which the United States inevitably would be entangled. That is why the Reagan policy of initiating and supporting the Contras' military attacks on Nicaragua - Ortega said they had

Overthrowing the regime would be the start of real trouble

already caused 600 deaths this year and millions of dollars' worth of damage - is seen in Mexico City as extremely dangerous.

It is hardly likely, of course, that Reagan actually wants a Nicaragua-Honduras war, so clearly would the United States have to be heavily involved and so great are the dangers. That would not be the best campaign plan for a president who is almost certainly seeking reelection.

But since the military pressure on Nicaragua clearly risks such a war, it is fair to ask what that policy can achieve that is worth the risk. Stopping the arms flow into El Salvador? Even if Washington had been able to produce a shred of evidence that this flow is of substantial importance to the Salvadoran guerrillas, there should be better ways to stop it than military attacks on Nicaragua that could bring on general war.

Forcing the Sandinistas toward a more democratic or pro-United States policy? Military attacks do not seem likely to accomplish that. Overthrowing the regime? As the Mexicans see it, that would not be the end but the beginning of real trouble. So what is Reagan's goal? Where does his Nicaraguan policy lead? If he knows, now is the time to let the people decide if they want to follow.

© New York Times, 1983

صكران الامهل



3, Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TO MERGE OR NOT TO MERGE?

Five weeks of work, argument rises for the long run on Friday. There is much to be done during the summer days. This summer the Conservatives must plant the seedcorn for the next election if they wish to win. The whole political landscape has undergone seismic change since the announcement of the last election and none of the three main parties has fully worked out the effects of that change over the next four to five years. Our task is to find a leader, to form an alliance, and to persuade a convincing majority for a second term. Their positions will be examined in this page before Parliament rises.

There is to be an Alliance, or a merger? There are two opposing schools of thought on Liberal and Social Democratic minds, and so far no sign of their reconciliation. That perhaps even less likely now than Mr. Jenkins has opted out of Mr. Steel, though superficially engaged in a long holiday, some token irritation with party, is showing signs of a permanent political decision which has afflicted him and does not augur so well for the effort of a long haul in an uncertain political destination.

When the Alliance was formed members seemed to hope they did sweep all before them, that about having to bother too much about policy or creating a long and lasting political foundation. That euphoria helped to disguise the fact that the SDP members, having belonged to a Labour government, were more interested in policies for government than the Liberals had ever been. Anyone seriously interested in government would not be likely to join the Liberal party for nearly fifty years. These discrepancies in attitude, however, were subsumed by an assumption that government, or a share in government, could miraculously arise as a consequence of the

collapsing vote of the other two parties.

When the fortunes of the Conservatives revived that became less likely. The route to government for the Alliance seemed then to lie through replacing Labour as the viable alternative - a realignment of the left in reverse order to what happened when Labour replaced the Liberals.

In terms of votes cast at the election, that prospect seemed to be the right one. But how does the Alliance now proceed to the next stage? It cannot scale the dwindling citadel of Labour power till the next election. Yet how does it keep up momentum in the meantime? Moreover, if it came second to Labour in only 46 seats, compared to being second in 262 Conservative seats, this means that its only real hope of replacing Labour is to wait for a terminal collapse in the Labour vote far in excess of that which occurred last month. Post-election surveys show, incidentally, that the SDP part of the Alliance is more likely to appeal to Labour voters in all areas than the Liberals are, which suggests that, if the policy is to plan for a realignment of the left based on a continuing collapse of Labour, the formation of a formal merger with the Liberal party would be unwise.

The nagging question remains, regardless of the personalities of Dr. Owen and Mr. Steel. Is the third force in British politics strong enough to replace the second force? Or should it stay true to its original rhetoric of breaking the mould, and work for a structure of British politics which is not at all bipolar, but multi-party? The logic of proportional representation is for many political groupings and permanent coalition governments. The logic of the realignment of the left is for a straight takeover of Labour's role as a main alternative to Conservative government in a continuing bipolar system.

The weaknesses of both positions are apparent. The Alliance

BROTHERHOOD AND CAUTION

The Chinese friendship declaration which visited the USSR earlier this month was but one instance of the many contacts now developing between the two states. Border talks, exchanges in port, culture and trade, and less slick statements by leaders in both sides have renewed speculation about the imminence of some dramatic realignment in the relations between the Pacific powers, since the United States will be affected by any change in the Sino-Soviet alliance.

The significance of these growing contacts between Moscow and Peking should not be exaggerated, however. The leaders of both sides have stressed that deals, not words, are what count in international affairs. The propaganda war has certainly become less strident, but fundamental differences have not been diminished.

It was certainly unrealistic to expect immediate results on order issues during the March talks in Moscow with a Chinese delegation under a deputy foreign minister, Qian Qichen; reports of a "substantial détente" were clearly over-optimistic. The territorial dispute is as long historic roots. Centuries before Russian colonists spread beyond the Urals into Asia, Chinese influence was paramount. There have been many attempts to fix the boundary between China and Siberia since the first treaty was signed at Nerchinsk in 1689.

Exploiting China's weakness, Russian imperialism pushed the border farther south, consolidating its conquests in a series of "unequal treaties" later condemned by both Marx and Lenin. After the 1917 revolution the Soviet government renounced the Tsarist conquests without, however, ceding any territory. Now Moscow denies that any Chinese lands were ever seized by Russia.

Although China naturally resents the losses (the city of Vladivostok, "Ruler of the East", stands on land once

Chinese) Peking does not denounce the return of all lost lands - only those taken in violation of the Russo-Chinese treaties. The major disputes are over the islands and navigation rights in the Amur and Ussuri rivers, the scene of fierce fighting in 1969, and the Pamir mountains; in 1981 the USSR signed a border treaty with the Kabul regime in Afghanistan, denounced by Peking as an attempt to preempt Chinese territorial claims amounting to some 20,000 square kilometres in this strategic area. Moscow is afraid of yield even an inch lest other neighbours will be encouraged in their territorial claims.

This territorial dispute came to the fore in the 1960s as part of the general rift between the USSR and China. Ideological differences continue, but they are less bitter than when Moscow was attacking Mao as a "Hitleric warmonger". There is rivalry for influence in "national liberation struggles" and in the non-aligned countries. Both communist giants offer their greatly differing experience in socialist development as the best pattern for others to follow.

The role of the USA is an important factor. Improved Sino-American relations caused considerable upset in the Kremlin and provided further incentive to extend Soviet detente with the West. Yet at the same time Moscow criticized China for "lining up with the imperialists". The USSR emphasizes that, unlike the USA, it fully recognizes Chinese sovereignty over Taiwan; but Peking is aware that Moscow is exploiting US-Chinese differences for its own ends. While Washington retains a realistic assessment of Soviet foreign policy China has no need to fear isolation from a US-Soviet rapprochement, and can afford to show displeasure at Washington's links with Taiwan.

Both socialist states want Western and Japanese technology, but China can set its own pace of development since it

does not share Soviet ambitions to win military superiority over the United States. Unlike the USSR, China is not regarded as a major military threat. It has fairly good relations with the European Community and Japan, and apart from financial stringencies, has few restrictions on expanding trade.

As Premier Zhao Ziyang pointed out recently, progress in the Sino-Soviet talks will be slight while the USSR refuses to discuss major issues such as the occupation of Afghanistan; Soviet support for Vietnam in its border conflict with China and expansionist policies in Cambodia; or the military threat to China of some fifty divisions across the border in the USSR and Mongolia. Peking is just as alarmed as Japan at the build-up of Soviet missiles in the Far East. President Andropov, like his predecessor, has talked of "normalizing" relations with China but has made no concrete proposals.

When weighed against matters of such importance, progress in other areas seems slight. The USSR has seven times more trade with the two million Mongolians in Comecon than with the thousand million Chinese. Despite increasing Chinese contacts with the USSR's East European allies, trade with West Germany alone is several times greater. Moscow Radio recently complained that a Sino-Soviet cultural agreement covers the exchange of ten students this year, while there are nine thousand Chinese students in the USSR.

It would be naive for Western leaders to depend on the Sino-Soviet dispute to tie up a large proportion of Soviet military strength; it would be even more foolish to attempt to exacerbate the differences. The Chinese leadership is sufficiently aware of the threat of Soviet expansionism; it will no doubt continue to be cautious in developing contacts with Moscow.

produced. Nigel West, one of these journalists, has confirmed to me in writing that "I have no reason to believe that your father was ever disloyal to his country."

Yet words like "spy", "agent" and "agent of influence" are flung around and the accusations are now made once again, bolstered by the innuendo that my father's suicide in 1967 was the result of M15 questioning rather than, as his family and friends know, of his distress and mental illness after my mother's death.

It is intolerable that these leaks, innuendoes and falsehoods should continue, while the records of the secret services remain closed to historians or to the relatives of those involved, but apparently accessible to journalists with voluble but self-

interested contacts. These events occurred a long time ago - most of them before I was born - so that I can look at them with some detachment but also with the desire to know more.

The left-wing politics of the 1930s are a proper subject for historical study and it is inopportune that judicial or scholarly investigation of them could now endanger national security. It is also misguided to believe, as is sometimes suggested, that keeping such matters secret shields from distress the relatives and friends of those accused.

Yours faithfully,
RODERICK FLOOD,
21 Saverkno Road, NW3,
July 19.

Soviet 'moles'

From Professor R. C. Flood
Sir, Both as the son of Bernard Flood, MP, and as a professional historian, I should be delighted if the Government were - as Ted Leadbetter, MP, has suggested (report, July 18) - to set up an inquiry into the extent and the damage done by Soviet influence in public life in Britain in the 1930s and 1940s.

For the last three years, my father has been accused by journalists, spurred on by leaks from within the secret services, of having been a Soviet agent and a recruiter of spies. He was a communist in his youth, but not a star of evidence that he gave or intended to give any secret to the Soviet Union, or incited anyone else to do so, has yet been

The Prince's view of Army discipline

From Mr Ben Vincent
Sir, The Prince of Wales has repeated the "common-sense" opinion that if the young are "given a taste of Army discipline" report, (July 19) they are more likely to become law-abiding citizens.

When distinguished a public speaker makes such pronouncements most of us assume that his advisers have researched the subject and can produce evidence. May we know on what the opinion is based? Quite recently we had evidence that the process is at least not automatic.

Presumably the Paras are a fine example of the effect of Army discipline but a sizeable group were recently found guilty of serious sexual offence against a girl of fifteen, who was openly brought into their barracks and dormitory in contravention of military security. In defence it was blandly stated that this breach was not very unusual. A few weeks later *The Times* reported that another group of Paras were up before the court for their part in a drunken brawl in the streets of Aldershot. Other cases have been reported from overseas.

Is it not perhaps in accord with common-sense to expect riotous, drunken and sexual misbehaviour when young fellows are removed from the natural discipline of local communities, parents and the residents of streets where they are known?

Do ex-soldiers generally confirm the Prince's observation that their comrades were on the whole less given to theft, vandalism, violence, drunkenness, debauch, contempt of authority, idleness, obscenity and blasphemy than civilians?

Yours faithfully,
BEN VINCENT,
4 Hawthorne Road,
Radlett,
Hertfordshire,
July 19.

EEC labour code

From Mr Nigel Kennedy
Sir, Bryan Rigby suggests (July 7) that the Vredeling directive is damaging and misconceived. But if his support for the principles contained within the draft directive is genuine, and if he really believes that "the British industrial relations tradition" can achieve these standards undisturbed by the EEC, then the directive itself should not cause him much concern. If employee consultation is already - or is about to be - a reality in Britain, then the directive should arrive unnoticed.

And, if this is the case, it will serve as a useful watchdog over companies which attempt to opt out of their responsibilities regarding employee information whenever they find it inconvenient.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL KENNEDY,
43 Santos Road, SW18.

'Improved' bread

From Mr Justin de Blank
Sir, I write to comment on the proposed alterations to the bread and flour regulations and specifically to oppose the recommendation that will permit certain chemicals to be added to wholemeal bread.

I regard this as a thoroughly bad recommendation. "Wholemeal" is a neat, clear-cut word which concisely states that the flour or meal is the result of grinding the whole (or all the component parts) of the grain of wheat.

The justification underlying this recommendation is that the plant bakers find it difficult to bake wholemeal loaves on their plant unless the flour is doctored with "improvers", principally to give more lift or development to the loaf.

But wholemeal loaves can perfectly well be made without "improvers" and with flour from English wheat. We bake thousands of such loaves each week using only English wheat. It takes skill but it can be done.

Let others acquire these skills; it is not right to force questionable changes on the public to fit round the demands of a part - admittedly a large part - of the baking trade.

Yours faithfully,
JUSTIN DE BLANK,
Justin de Blank Provisions Ltd,
42 Elizabeth Street, SW1,
July 13.

Gardener's options

From Mrs Christine Shorney
Sir, As a new recruit to an allotment this year I hate to put a damper on Mr Lawrence D Hill's hopes for the unemployed in this direction (July 5).

First of all, to dispel the myth that cheap vegetables are obtainable from an allotment; "the only cheap vegetables are those available in the shops", a quote from my father-in-law, retired, and with long experience.

Here is just some of the expenses I have incurred: rent and water, £5.60 for 150 sq yds, or five perches; mushroom compost, £16; fruit trees, seed, fertilizer, £18; sundry tools, £36 - at which point I had to get a job to pay for it all.

I have harvested two gooseberry tarts, three lettuces and five radishes; the slugs had the French

Seabed rights

From Mr Thomas P. Winsor
Sir, Professor Denman (July 18), in making his proposal that the rights of the seabed and subsoil under the UK continental shelf should be conveyed to the oil companies to secure them certain safeguards, errs in a number of important respects:

1. The UK's rights over the UK continental shelf (UKCS) are sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting the natural resources of its seabed and subsoil. Article I of the Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf, as amended, into UK by the Continental Shelf Act 1964. They therefore fall quite far short of the full sovereignty that we enjoy over our land territory, and the two should not be confused.

2. As most of the oil-bearing strata in the UKCS lie in the Scottish sector and the civil law of Scotland applies to it - Continental Shelf

Turning the screw on rate support

From the Leader of the Kent County Council
Sir, I was astonished to read in your main front page report of yesterday's edition (July 19) that Kent County Council might figure on some Government list as an "over spender". I can only presume that it represents the view of your reporter rather than a considered comment of the Secretary of State.

It is no secret that Kent's budget for 1983/84 exceeds the expenditure target set by the Government along with another 147 local authorities in England, and indeed two-thirds of all the shire counties. What matters is the scale of individual authorities' overspending.

The Government applied a relatively mild grant penalty to authorities who overshoot their target by no more than 2 per cent, no doubt in recognition of the arbitrary nature of the target. Of those shire counties where the Conservative Party has a clear majority only one exceeded target by more than 2 per cent and their total contribution to the overall excess of £771m was a mere £36m. This peccadillo pales into insignificance when set against the GLC's excess of £301m, ILEA's at £97m and £72m by the six metropolitan counties.

Furthermore, if Patrick Jenkin were to be seriously suggesting that Kent would be branded as an overspender that would be a breathtaking volte-face from his widely reported remarks in the House of Commons about the "rough justice" of the expenditure targets. These targets are fundamentally based on what authorities have spent in the past, so that they already legitimise to a considerable extent past high spending and turn the screw even tighter on those authorities whose previous record had been marked by prudence and economy.

If local authorities are to be pronounced guilty by journalists' innuendo I can only hope that the Government will, like Parliament

last week, opt for punishment which is both civilised and appropriate.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. B. NEAME,
County Hall,
 Maidstone, Kent,
 July 20.

From Councillor J. Sanders Grose
Sir, Does the inclusion of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames in your correspondent's list of councils desired for government rate-capping (July 19) mean that councils who are real sinners are in danger of knee-capping?

Almost exactly a year ago I visited Mr Heseltine, the then Secretary of State for the Environment, to argue a special case for increasing Richmond's rate support grant. I did not succeed, but he was generous in his praise of financial controls and results which set an excellent example, etc.

Indeed, a week ago it was confirmed to this committee that our expenditure for 1981/82 fell within the Government expenditure guidelines by 2.65 per cent.

It was also reported that although the Council's expenditure is almost exactly in line with the Government's provisional effective target.

Members were also informed at the same meeting that 1. Richmond employs the lowest number of staff per 1,000 of population in any London Borough, 2. over the last two years overtime working has been reduced by 23.5 per cent hours, 3. rates consistently over the years have been below the average of outer London boroughs.

Is Mr Patrick Jenkin ulting against windmills or has someone got his Richmonds in a twist?

Yours faithfully,
J. SANDERS GROSE, Chairman,
Policy and Resources Committee,
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.
Members' Room,
Municipal Offices,
Twickenham,
Middlesex,
July 19.

Impediments on prisoners' rights

From the Chairman of the Howard League for Penal Reform
Sir, In roundly condemning penal reformers you assert that there is no such thing as prisoners' rights, but only a limited obligation on the part of penal administrators to apply minimum standards of accommodation and discipline ("Just deserts", July 19).

You are wrong on two counts. First, the House of Lords has held that a prisoner retains all the rights of the citizen, except those that are specifically taken away by statute: *Raymond v Honey* (1983) AC1. Neither the Prison Act 1952 nor the Prison Rules 1964 (as amended) has authorised, for example, any impairment of the prisoner's rights of unimpeded access to the courts for a remedy against the prison administration.

Second, prison administrators have for some time now acknowledged that the rehabilitative ideology (an outmoded concept of modern penal systems) has been replaced, not by retribution but by the justice model which pays regard to fair and equal treatment for all convicted prisoners, without discrimination. ("Humane containment" is the contemporary Prison Department philosophy.)

Nothing conduces more to disturbance of the prison scene than the declared policy of imposing on prisoners - particularly the more disruptive prisoner - a loss of identity in conditions of intolerable overcrowding and with a denial of basic rights of maintained contact with families and friends.

In short, we do ourselves a grave disservice if we do not permit all prisoners to serve out their sentences in tolerable conditions - both physical and psychological - consistent with sound prison administration. Offenders are sent to prison as punishment for crime, and out for punishment.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER, Chairman,
Howard League for Penal Reform,
320-322 Kensington Park Road,
SE11,
July 19.

Rainbow warriors

From Mr Yehudi Menuhin
Sir, Greenpeace, in its intrepid confrontation with the greed of our fellow mecs, most recently in the USSR, has demonstrated with courage and valour how to build a better world; how to emancipate mankind through responsibility to others, not necessarily of ones own clan or species, and to the uses of freedom.

May their inspiring idealism turn our wrath against the real threats to mankind. They have identified them; those who pass unchallenged, and without respect towards our fellow creatures on this planet - human, animal and vegetable - to wreck our world with their blind greed.

Yours faithfully,
YEHUDI MENUHIN,
2 The Grove,
Higgate Village, N16,
July 21.

Musical manners

From Mr Gerald Harvey
Sir, Mr Ponsonby's assurance (July 12) that Messrs Boulez and Messiaen are really nice, sensitive claps may be true but it doesn't make their music sound any less dreadful. As for his constant lament of "get to know it and you will learn to like it", I have been trying that for 30 years and it doesn't work, at least only for a very limited number of pieces, and one finds ones ears assaulted without just cause all too often.

The BBC and Mr Ponsonby have a tremendous opportunity in this respect. They have the biggest music machine ever built. No other art form is fed into our very homes as relentlessly as music - not even film. Yet there is little attempt to open our hearts to modern music. In fact, as an educator, Radio 3 is virtually a non-starter. *Music Weekly* is a jewelled island in a dead sea.

Nothing is offered to continue the fascinating tradition of Anthony Hopkins. The recent television films of Respighi were all the more beautiful for the rarity of the genre.

The general presentation of modern music is bland and formal, with no attempt in the *Radio Times* to suggest that it might be interesting or special, and with no more than the driest of formal analyses of the works, impersonally read by an unconvincing announcer and justly forgotten as soon as the noise starts.

Can Mr Ponsonby turn Radio 3 into something alive, a presentation of what is alive, beautiful and necessary to our lives in the musical field? Can he try to show us just what it is that he finds so fascinating about this stuff?

Yours sincerely,
GERALD HARVEY,
8 Briarwood Road,
Clapham Park, SW4.

Relatively speaking

From Mr Felix Barker
Sir, After his article (July 19) Mr Philip Howard, your genial guardian of our grammar, will be relieved to hear that in one place at least the correct use of the personal relative pronoun is maintained.

I am assured that at Boston, in the Ivy League fob of Harvard, the owls are so well educated that they hoot not "To-whit-to-who" but "To-whit-to-whom".

The error of conception is Professor Denman's.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS P. WINSOR,
60 Puddle Street,
Dundee,
July 18.

Sentenced for life

From Mr Ewen E. S. Montagu, QC
Sir, Not many people have seen a man who is serving a life-sentence which he believes to be definitely for the whole of the remainder of his life. I have had that awful and unforgettable experience - it was horrifying beyond the imagination of anyone who had not seen it.

It occurred at the naval court-martial of a young sailor charged with having acted as a stool-pigeon while a prisoner of the Germans. The prosecutor called as a witness a young Canadian who had been convicted of giving aid to the Germans and who believed that his life-sentence meant for the whole of the rest of his life and that, having regard to prevailing public opinion, he could never hope to be released.

One saw a creature (it was

virtually impossible to think of him as a human being) who was in all real respects dead - although he was still breathing.

I am not contesting the need for very long sentences for brutal murders - or indeed for any brutal violence - even if the Almighty decreed that victim should not actually die, but everyone should think deeply before advocating what I feel to be the ultimate in cruelty - a sentence which will, by statute, inevitably go on and on with no hope of any relief in this life. It may be that some prisoners could, in the event, never be released, but to exact that they should have no hope would be inhuman.

I am, Sir, etc.
EWEN E. S. MONTAGU,
24 Montrose Court,
Exhibition Road, SW7,
July 18.

Scottish salmon stocks

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist
Sir, On July 20 and 21, 1982, you were good enough to publish two articles by me on the very serious decline of salmon-fishing in Scotland.

Your readers may care to know that the general situation this year is no better and may even be worse. Many people are relying on a repeat performance of the heavy autumn run of grilse which occurred in many rivers last year, but there is little real hope in this direction.

Such a concentration of productive angling in a brief season is unlikely to ensure the continuance of a sport which is not merely enjoyable but economically significant for regions lacking in modern forms of development. A season four weeks long (in pursuit of salmon in what is basically a small and immature form) will not

support the hotels and boarding houses. Could Arsenal survive if they were compelled to play all their matches within four weeks?

Is there a remedy? Yes, though the subject requires fuller treatment than can be given here. It is worth making an effort to save our salmon. Look what the Icelanders have done by following three simple lines of approach. The following is an extract from the July issue of *News from Iceland*:

The numbers of salmon caught in Iceland's streams and rivers has doubled in just over a decade. The ever-increasing stock of this fine game fish is attributed to three main factors: an extensive breeding programme; a fishing ban in coastal waters, and inland waters that are pollution free.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GILCHRIST,
Arthur's Crag,
Hazelbank,
by Lanark,
July 7.

Matrimonial links

From Mrs Kathleen Waring
Sir, Perhaps the General Synod of the Church of England would now consider changing the words of the Marriage Service to read: "ill death or divorce us do part."

Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN WARING,
251 Wendover House,
Thurlow Street, SE17,
July 15.

Gardener's options

Here is just some of the expenses I have incurred: rent and water, £5.60 for 150 sq yds, or five perches; mushroom compost, £16; fruit trees, seed, fertilizer, £18; sundry tools, £36 - at which point I had to get a job to pay for it all.

I have harvested two gooseberry tarts, three lettuces and five radishes; the slugs had the French

beans. But I am persevering against the long established cough, that is. Unpaid hours clocked up would pay for a family cruise.

A large investment in time and money is required to get off the ground from scratch and good vegetables require more than just the supply of seed, which is the least of it. I have not even costed the software.

Having got started, *Tomorrow's World* advised allotment holders in cities that the lead content in our vegetables should be giving us cause for concern. Then the wettest spring in history rotted early sowings and only a tenth of my parsnips have germinated, for which I am truly grateful, if not exultant.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE SHORNEY,
19 Crispin Way,
Kingswood,
Bristol,
July 5.

pletely secure against unilateral alteration by Parliament.

Parliament (Labour in power) substantially altered, by unilateral action, the rights and obligations of holders of existing petroleum production licences, many of which had decades left to run, in enacting the Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Act 1975 (Part II), and (with the Conservatives in power) again acted to pass retrospectively active legislation affecting existing licence holders in Section 20 of the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act 1982.

A bipartisan record of unilateral licence alteration having now been established in the UK, to licensee or other holder of rights in the UKCS is completely safe.

The error of conception is Professor Denman's.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS P. WINSOR,
60 Puddle Street,
Dundee,
July 18.

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

Action of the Lists of Market, Unlisted Securities Market and Unit Prices has been temporarily suspended because of a printer fault. We apologize for the interruption of our services, which will resume as soon as able.

CARD MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY - Interim: Allied Textiles, Temple Bar Investments, UC Investments, AAH Holdings, Air Group, Midland Industrial, Freedy & Sons, Regalian Properties, H. Tomkins, Seritrust.

THURSDAY - Interim: Jordan, National Westminster, Acros (amended), British Patent Association, Duxon, Dom Holdings, Investment Trust, Macfarlane, Pharmaceutics, Mercantile Holdings, Radiant Metal, Vantage Securities.

FRIDAY - Interim: Cronin, Lada Investment Trust, Bank, Updown Investment.

CONSULTANTS (computer and other), Greenleaf Investment, Gresham House, Priestley Group.

THURSDAY - Interim: Cardinal, Derby Trust, John D. ICI, Nottingham Manufacturing Company, Portman and Sunderland Newsprint (first quarter), Xerox position (second quarter).

ADDITIONAL MOTOR HOLDINGS, K. Williams & Sons, Mid Wynd, National Investment Trust, Day Opay, Nova (Jersey) Knt, DAY - Interim: Lex Service, yde Bank.

Gray Electronics, J & J, Pombal, Neepend, William Somerville & Son, West Zigmund.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY - Ballal, Connaught, Great Queens Street, WC2, 15, Scotland Yard, Investment, 28 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh (12.30), Whitbread, 51 St James Place, Wiltshire, Cheshire.

THURSDAY - Amber Industrial, Cayan House, 24 St Marys, EC3 (3.30), Hargreaves, 20, Abchurch Lane, EC4 (10.30), Heron (London), Heron House, 19, Victoria Road, NW1 (noon), King Industries, Cayan House, St Marys, EC3 (12.30), Porter Tun Room, The, Chiswell Street, EC1 (noon).

FRIDAY - Associated Heat, Grosvenor Hotel, 101, Abchurch Lane, SW1 (noon), Bechem Group, Hotel Continental (Grand Ballroom), Hamilton Place, Hyde Park, W1 (noon), Black Hill, 5th Floor, 297, Murray Road, Perth (10.30), Berrys, 2, 4 St Marys, EC3 (10.30), Continental & Industrial, 120, Cheapside, EC2 (noon), Hill Holdings, The Mount Suite, Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, W1 (12.00), Mercury Securities, 30, Grosvenor Street, EC2 (noon), Manks Investment Trust, Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Road, EC2 (10.00), Pauls & White's Sports & Leisure, Stone Lodge Lane, South, Sutton, Surrey (11.15), Institute of Directors, 6, Pall Mall, SW1 (12.15), 600, Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W1 (11.30), Slatters Food, Brackley Lane, Newbury, Berkshire (11.00).

THURSDAY - Bassant, Fisons, Atlantic Room, Institute of Directors, 116, Pall Mall, SW1 (noon), British Steam Specialities, Grand Hotel, Leicester Road, N. Brown Investments, Grand Hotel, 11, Copthall Ave, EC2 (10.30), Marshall, Hill Ings, Southwark, SE1 (2.30), Metal Box, Plaistead, 1, London Wall, EC2 (noon), International Chamber of Commerce, The Strand, WC2 (noon), UKO International, The Strand, WC2 (noon), Terrance Rooms, 116, Pall Mall, SW1 (noon).

FRIDAY - Barracoe Tea Holdings, 107, West Nile Street, Glasgow (9.30), BPS Industries, The Portman International Hotel, 22, Portman Square, W1 (noon), Brown & Jackson, Great Hotel, Preston, Lancs (noon), Downs Surgical, Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, WC1 (3.00), Electroworld Group, Fitzroy Suite, The Howard Hotel, Temple Place, Strand, WC2 (noon), James Finlay, 107/14 West Nile Street, Glasgow (noon), Northern Hotel, Kings Cross, N1 (11.30), Phoenix Company, Millbank Tower, 21-24, Millbank, SW1 (noon), Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers, The News Centre, Hillside, Portsmouth (12.00), Tesco Stores, (Shelton), Savoy Hotel, (Lancaster Room - River Entrance), Strand, WC2 (noon), Town & City Properties, Institute of Directors, 116, Pall Mall, SW1 (11.00), Westwood House, 34 Wigmore Street, W1 (noon).

World Bank spells out need for more western aid and private investment Third World 'faces catastrophe' if economic recovery tapers off

Developing countries face "catastrophic consequences" if the industrial countries' economic recovery tapers off into a decade of slow growth, the World Bank says in its World Development Report 1983.

The report, published today, also says that sustained and reasonably fast economic growth in the rich countries will not be sufficient by itself to generate adequate living standards in poor countries.

Yet if the rich countries do not solve their structural problems and the developing countries achieve low growth, the report says "it is easy to envisage a downward global economic spiral... with catastrophic consequences for the developing countries."

Today's quotas, part of the EEC-wide crisis programme for steel, were imposed in 1980 and came up for review at the end of

That the international banking system will weather the present crisis, not a doubt, considering the small fraction (about 6 per cent) of banks' assets represented by their claims on developing countries.

However, some banks may suffer from their exposure to the developing world in greatest financial difficulty, and commercial bank lending to developing countries will decline.

Top Commonwealth bankers and economists begin a three-day meeting in London today to put the finishing touches to a report urging important reforms of the international financial and trading system, including proposals for more stable exchange rates and ways of protecting Third World countries from the worst consequences of global deflation.

about 0.35 per cent of rich countries' gross domestic product - half the target.

The report argues that the developing countries' need to finance growth through borrowing will be further reduced by the likelihood that interest rates between 1982 and 1995 (the end of the period being analysed) will average a real 10 per cent.

So, it concludes, "The strong implication of this analysis is that ODA as currently planned falls far short of the needs of the developing countries, especially of the low-income countries, if world poverty is to be seriously tackled."

Along with the report is gloomy about the attitude prevailing in rich countries and about the avility of their governments to solve structural difficulties such as unemployment and how to achieve expansion without inflation, it emphasizes the need for developing countries to be part of the solution.

The report says: "A determined effort to resume the liberalization of trade, prudent but dynamic international lending policies, and more generous aid need not await the resumption of fast global economic growth; on the contrary, they are necessary to bring it about."

Low-income countries would experience 4.9 per cent growth and the industrial countries 3.7 per cent. It is recognized, however, that some of the assumptions underlying these projections are optimistic. The low case - which presupposes that rich countries do not solve their structural problems - projects only 4.5 per cent growth for the poor countries.

Forward-thinking stockbrokers have anticipated change. The result, it is whispered is that the top ten, are already geared to dual capacity. Yet this is one point on which the Exchange is unlikely to offer any concessions.

The real survival test will come for the small and medium-sized brokers, whose voice on the Exchange's ruling council is limited.

They often do not have the spread of business, the research teams, and the lucrative business from government securities and from the large share deals of the big financial institutions.

City Editor's Comment Survival test on the Stock Exchange

The rule-book debate behind closed doors on the Stock Exchange is about survival - which firms will, and in what form.

The Government has decided to call off the Office of Fair Trading court action over the Exchange's rule book. It is now up to the Exchange to offer proposals which would settle the OFT action outside the restrictive practices court.

The OFT says that parts of the rule book are restrictive because it lays down minimum commission charges, restricts membership and says that a firm can act as either a broker or a jobber, but not as both.

needs a reference to the whole membership. This week, Sir Nicholas Goodison, Stock Exchange chairman, will disclose the terms of his out-of-court settlement to Mr Cecal Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

They must be much more than mere cosmetic changes but should appreciate that slow change is likely to leave fewer scars.

When the US Export Administration Act is renewed this autumn, it will run for five years. Mr William Nicholas, director of the London chamber of commerce, who this month put British industry's case to the US Congress, says that British companies have already warned him that they do not want to be tied in to American supplies of goods and technologies.

Go-ahead likely for freeports

By John Lawless

The Government is this week expected to give the go-ahead for freeports in Britain.

The Institute of Directors, which was represented on the Treasury working party that reported to then Chancellor Sir Geoffrey Howe, last year, said on Friday that it expected a "massive" number of applications to be made for the right to establish freeports.

These are widely used abroad, particularly in the United States. They allow manufacturers to set up plants within strictly controlled zones and to process imported goods without having to pay customs and excise duties.

The duties are then applied only to those products which come into the United Kingdom market, giving firms a considerable cost benefit.

There were fears that the proposal had been lost because of the general election. But the Institute of Directors said that next week's criteria for freeports will probably contain a deadline of October for applications.

The proposal could then become part of next year's Finance Bill, and some freeports could be in operation by the middle of next year.

The Government is known to favour the establishment of two or three experimental zones. Probably candidates to join Rotterdam. Europe's best known freeport, include Felixstowe, Belfast, Manchester, Ringway and Prestwick airports.

£100m loss feared at British Shipbuilders

By Our Industrial Correspondent

British Shipbuilders, parts of which are high on the Government's privatization list, will announce this week 1982-83 losses of between £70m and £100m.

Sir Robert Atkinson, chairman, who is soon to retire, is certain to take the opportunity to stress the corporation's financial plight and the need for an emergency package of measures - costing £200m and 8,500 jobs - to give the crisis-torn merchant shipbuilding division a chance of surviving.

Losses increased steadily throughout the corporation's financial year and the second half figure will prove to have been substantially in excess of the £28m deficit recorded in the first six months. Ministers have been shaken by the prospect of the year's losses reaching £100m - ten times more than the

Lazard starts bonds fund

There is no income but British investors should be liable only for capital gains tax when they sell. Holders of the income shares in Britain will be liable for income or corporation tax.

Lazard says most of the return on bond investments is in the form of income but that substantial capital gains can be made by buying deep discount bonds.

Lazard's Diversified Bond Fund will offer shares in two forms, income or accumulation. The accumulation shares will keep the dividends from the bonds and capital gains in the Cayman Islands, where the fund is registered.

Midland cash call expected

By Our Financial Staff

Midland Bank could announce a £150m call for cash from shareholders with its half time results on Wednesday.

This emerged in a study of the banking sector by Mr Keith Reynolds and Mr Anthony Munn, of de Zoete & Bevan, the stockbrokers.

The bank needs the cash to improve its balance-sheet, which still shows a capital adequacy figure below the average of the other three leading banks.

The de Zoete study covers Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Westminster, the Bank of Scotland, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Standard Chartered. It estimates that provision against bad debt at home last year rose much more than that made by the big four banks in case of a default on international debts.

Figures show 1982 domestic bad debt provision rising from £114m to £356m.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE VAT net spreads to fairs abroad

The Customs and Excise department has decided to spread its value-added tax net on to the British organizers of overseas trade fairs and companies taking part in them.

The 10,000-plus companies which take stands at exhibitions abroad however, will not suffer financially although they will be involved in a considerable amount of form-filling to claim back the VAT.

Its direct impact is on another government department, which will now have its hand back a portion of its budget allocated for export promotions to the Treasury.

The Fairs and Promotions Branch (FPB) of the British Overseas Trade Board is not registered for VAT. Like any other consumer of services, it has to pay VAT, but cannot claim it back.

Until detailed calculations are made, it will not know how much of its £19m-a-year budget it will lose.

The Customs and Excise department insists that it is only applying the law. But it would make no comment on the

suggestion that it is robbing another government department of money earmarked to promote badly needed British export sales.

Last year, FPB paid half the stand rental costs for 7,400 United Kingdom companies exhibiting overseas. It also chipped in generously towards travelling expenses for up to two executives from each company. On numerous occasions, it pays the round-trip freight costs for machinery being put on display, which can easily run into several thousands of pounds per item.

Demand has increased to record proportions this year, with the number of exhibitors certain to top 8,000. However, the FPB does not subsidize all trade fairs staged worldwide, especially first-time events, so the total number of exhibitors affected by the VAT decision is considerably larger.

Banker in Asian loans affair killed

From M. G. G. Pillai, Kuala Lumpur

The murder of a senior Malaysian banker in Hongkong last week has added a fresh twist to the government-owned Bank Bumiputra's attempts to cover more than HK\$1,000m (£90.5m) in loans to Carrian Investments, EDA Investments and the companies controlled by Mr Kevin Hsu.

Mr Jaill Ibrahim, aged 35, the assistant general manager of Bumiputra Malaysia Finance (BMF), the bank's Hongkong subsidiary, cashed a HK\$50,000 (£4,545) cheque and left the office last Monday to meet someone. His body was found in a banana plantation late the next day. Apparently he had been tortured.

Even more astute bankers have yet to find out who the shareholders of Carrian Holdings are, all of whom are said to be hiding behind Liberian, Panamanian and Swiss nominee companies. There have been suggestions that they are fronting for Malaysian politicians and businessmen, but this has never been proved.

The problems of BMF and its parent, Bank Bumiputra, have developed into a struggle between the press and the bank, which insists that it could not reveal any information about its clients without breaching confidentiality.

The Bank's chairman, Dr Nawawi Mat Amin, has submitted a confidential report on the bank's position to Datuk Seri Or Mabatir Mohamad, the Prime Minister. One senior official insists that BMF's position in Hongkong is much better than had been reported. But it would be another year before that statement could be proved or disproved.

Some sources say that Mr Kevin Hsu is trying to restructure his loans.

Carrian Investments, the quoted subsidiary of Carrian Holdings, under Mr George Tan, a Malaysian engineer who is a former bankrupt, became the high flier in the Hongkong property market. Bankers were falling over each other to lend money for little or no security.

BMF was one of nearly 100 banks and finance companies that had lent money to these three companies.

While the press here and in Hongkong has sharpened its attacks on Bank Bumiputra for its loan policies, the bank officials themselves seem certain that the losses are not as high as had been reported. The bank had moved against EDA Investments and its chairman, Mr C M Chung, who has disappeared from the colony and is believed to be in Taiwan.

THE GUINNESS MAHON BUSINESS EXPANSION FUND CLOSING 29th JULY 1983. A fund approved by the Inland Revenue under the terms of the Finance Act 1983, giving tax relief for eligible investors in unquoted UK companies. The fund is the first to be launched by a Merchant Bank under the new legislation, and aims to provide: 1. A direct investment in expanding British business through a spread of investments in young unquoted companies as well as established companies with new management or significant expansion projects. 2. A chance to obtain a high after tax return from the fund by benefiting from the 100% tax relief on the whole amount of participation by qualifying UK investors - up to £40,000 in the current tax year. 3. Professional management experience gained with funds launched under earlier legislation. * It should be noted that there are high risks involved in investment in young companies as well as a chance of high rewards. Subscription to the Fund will be limited to £2 1/2 million, or £5 million in exceptional circumstances. In the event of over-subscription, applications will be dealt with in strict order of receipt. The minimum subscription for each investor is £5,000, the maximum £40,000. You are invited to send in for a copy of the Memorandum describing the Fund by returning the coupon. NOTE: Before deciding to proceed with subscription to the Fund, you are advised to seek advice from your accountant, solicitor, stockbroker, bank manager or other professional adviser. By Guinness Mahon & Co. Limited, 22 St. Mary Axe, London EC3P 3AF. Please send me a copy of the Memorandum describing the Fund (and an application form). Name: Address: Postcode: 157

This document includes particulars given in compliance with the Regulations of the Council of The Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to The Diversified Bond Fund Limited ("the Fund"). The Participating Redeemable Preference Shares of 1 cent (US) each in the capital of the Fund ("Participating Shares") are offered on the basis of the information and representations contained in this document. All other information given or representations made by any person must be regarded as unauthorised.

The Directors have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects and that there are no other material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein whether of fact or opinion. All the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

A copy of this prospectus, having attached thereto copies of the Contracts and the Auditors' Consent referred to respectively in paragraphs 6 and 9 of Appendix D, has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies in England and Wales for registration.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for all the Participating Shares, issued and available to be issued, to be admitted to the Official List.

The consent of the Finance and Economics Committee of the States of Jersey under the Control of Borrowing (Jersey) Order 1958 (as amended) has been obtained for the issue of up to 25,000,000 Participating Shares. It must be distinctly understood that in giving this consent the Finance and Economics Committee does not take any responsibility for the financial soundness of any schemes or for the correctness of any of the statements made or opinions expressed with regard to them.

The distribution of this prospectus and the offering of Participating Shares may be restricted in certain jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of any person in possession of this prospectus and any person wishing to make applications for Participating Shares pursuant to this prospectus to inform themselves of and to observe all applicable laws and regulations of any relevant jurisdiction.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorised or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. In particular, the Participating Shares have not been registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 and, except in a placement by the Fund, does not involve a public offering, may not be directly or indirectly offered or sold in the United States or for the benefit of United States persons, or to others purchasing the Participating Shares for re-offering, re-sale or delivery directly or indirectly to the United States, or any of the benefit of any such persons. No application for any Participating Shares pursuant to the offer contained in this prospectus will be accepted from any person who is unable to make a declaration stating that such person is not a US person and that, upon the registration of such shares in the relevant state or states, no US person will be interested in such shares.

For the purposes of this prospectus and the accompanying Application Form, "United States" means the United States of America, each state thereof, its territories and possessions and all areas subject to its jurisdiction; and "US person" means a citizen or resident of the United States, a partnership or corporation created or organised in the United States or under the laws of the United States or an estate or trust (other than an estate or trust the income of which from sources outside the United States is not effectively connected with the conduct of trade or business within the United States and is not included for purposes of computing United States federal income tax).

This prospectus shall not constitute an invitation to the public in the Cayman Islands to subscribe for any of the Participating Shares.

Statements made in this prospectus are based on the law and practice currently in force in the Cayman Islands, the United Kingdom and Jersey, and are subject to changes therein.

21 July 1983

The Diversified Bond Fund Limited

(An exempted company incorporated with limited liability on 14 July 1983 under the provisions of the Companies Law, Cap. 22 as amended of the Cayman Islands)

Offer for subscription of up to 25,000,000 Participating Redeemable Preference Shares of 1 cent (US) each at US \$10 per share payable in full on application.

The Participating Redeemable Preference Shares are available to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares

Share Capital

Authorised		Nominal
10,000	Management Shares of US \$1 each	US \$10,000
29,000,000	*Unclassified Shares of US 1 cent each	US \$290,000
		US \$300,000
Issued, or now being offered		Total (including premium)
1,000	Management Shares of US \$1 each	US \$1,000
25,000,000	Unclassified Shares of US 1 cent each to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares	US \$250,000,000

*Unclassified Shares may be issued as Participating Redeemable Preference Shares or as Nominal Shares. The Participating Redeemable Preference Shares may be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares. The Nominal Shares may only be issued at par for the purposes of providing funds for the repayment of the nominal amount of any Participating Shares redeemed. Further details are set out in Appendix A below.

Indebtedness. At the close of business on 20 July 1983 the Fund did not have any debentures, loan capital (including term loans) outstanding or created but unissued nor any other borrowings, mortgages, charges or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings, including bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, hire-purchase commitments, guarantees or any other material contingent liabilities.

Issue of Participating Shares. Offer for subscription of up to 25,000,000 Participating Shares of 1 cent (US) each at US \$10 per share payable in full on application. The Participating Shares are available to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares.

The subscription lists for the Participating Shares offered will open at 10.00 am on 3 August 1983 and will close not later than 3.30 pm on the same day. For information as to how to subscribe, see Procedure for Subscription.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer or invitation in respect of Participating Shares at any time after 3 August 1983.

In the event that the amount raised by the issue of Participating Shares pursuant to this offer is less than US \$1,000,000 (see paragraph 8 of Appendix D) all application monies will be returned to applicants at their risk and will be posted not later than 10 August 1983.

Directors

Christopher Brunton Melluish (Chairman)
Thundridge Hill, Ware, Hertfordshire,
United Kingdom.

(Director, Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited)

Dr. Roberto Ramon Aleman
Golf Heights, City of Panama,
Republic of Panama.

(Partner, Icaza, Gonzalez-Ruiz & Aleman)

Walter Albert Eberstadt
1035 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10028,
United States of America.
(General Partner, Lazard Freres & Co., (New York))

Peter Timothy Hart

Le Tapis, Clos Royale, Grouville, Jersey,
Channel Islands.

(Manager/Secretary, Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited)

Thorleif Monsen

Lyford Cay, New Providence, Bahamas.
(President, Aall & Company Limited Inc. (George
Town, Grand Cayman))

Eric John Sainsbury

Kenton, Harrington Sound Road, Smiths Parish,
Bermuda.

(Managing Director, Argus Insurance Company
Limited (Bermuda))

Alan Charles Wrigley
Mantles Green Cottage, Hyde Heath,
Buckinghamshire, United Kingdom.
(Director, Lazard Securities Limited)

Administration

Registered Office
The Aall Building, North Church Street,
Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

Manager
Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited,
2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.
Telephone: Jersey (0534) 37361 Telex: 4192154

Secretary and Registrar
Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd.,
The Aall Building, North Church Street.

Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

Telephone: Grand Cayman 94355 Telex: 4303 CP

Investment Adviser

Lazard Securities Limited,
21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT,
United Kingdom.

Custodian

Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York
(Jersey Branch), Queensway House,
Queen Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Joint Auditors

In the Cayman Islands:
Coopers & Lybrand, Chartered Accountants
Cayman International Trust Building,
PO Box 219, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

In Jersey:

Coopers & Lybrand, Chartered Accountants
La Motte Chambers, St. Helier, Jersey,
Channel Islands.

Bankers

Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited,
2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey,
Channel Islands.

Stockbrokers

Cazenove & Co.,
12 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN,
United Kingdom and The Stock Exchange.

Legal Advisers

In the Cayman Islands:
Maples and Calder, Attorneys at Law
Cayman International Trust Building,
PO Box 309, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

In England:

Freshfields, Solicitors
Grindall House, 25 Newgate Street,
London EC1A 7LH, United Kingdom.

In Jersey:

Michael Voisin & Co., Advocates
PO Box 31, Templar House, Don Road,
St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Objectives of the Fund

The Fund was incorporated with limited liability on 14 July 1983 under the provisions of the Companies Law, Cap. 22 as amended of the Cayman Islands. It will operate in a similar way to a unit trust so that each week it may issue and redeem Participating Shares at prices based on the Fund's underlying net asset value. The Fund's share capital is described in Appendix A. This prospectus relates to the initial offer of 25,000,000 Participating Shares in the Fund at US \$10 per Participating Share.

The Fund aims to provide investors with a professionally managed portfolio of fixed interest securities and securities issued at a discount in the international capital markets, denominated in US dollars, deutschmarks, Dutch guilders, pounds sterling, Swiss francs, French francs, Japanese yen, Canadian dollars and Norwegian krona.

It is in the nature of bond investment that a large part of the return generally arises as income. But the Directors believe that there are significant investment opportunities in purchasing deep discount bonds and notes where substantial capital gains (including the discount) may arise. Accordingly, the Fund may include a large proportion of deep discount bonds and notes in its portfolio, thus giving rise to capital gains (including discounts) rather than income. In current conditions it is expected that the Fund's portfolio would earn an income yield of approximately 5 per cent per annum.

Investment Policy

A large proportion of the bonds in the Fund's portfolio is likely to consist of eurocurrency instruments together with bonds issued in those countries where no tax is withheld at source on interest and zero or low coupon bonds. It will be the Directors' intention to concentrate the portfolio on prime quality issues, in order to maintain a high degree of marketability. The Fund will make a reasonable spread of investments and its Articles of Association contain certain restrictions on the Fund's investment policy, including a provision that, at the time of acquisition, the value of the Fund's interest in any investment shall not exceed 15 per cent of

the value of the Fund's total investments; further details of the restrictions will be found in paragraph 15 of Appendix D.

Those of the Fund's assets not committed to the longer term markets may be held either as cash on deposit, invested in short-term negotiable securities such as certificates of deposit, bank acceptances and treasury bills, or invested in floating rate instruments on which the rate of interest is periodically reviewed. The Directors will seek to protect the capital value of the Fund by shortening the average maturity of the investments in periods of rising interest rates. Therefore, the proportion of the assets of the Fund held in cash and short-term instruments may be considerable and may vary from time to time according to the Directors' views of the likely movements in interest rates.

The anticipated movement of foreign exchange values is an important part of investment decisions both in selecting long-term securities and in choosing currencies in which to hold funds. However, active dealings in the foreign exchange markets are not contemplated.

Directors of the Fund

Christopher Brunton Melluish (Chairman) (aged 47), is a Director of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited and Joint Managing Director of Lazard Securities Limited. He is also a Director of MGM Assurance Limited.

Roberto Ramon Aleman (aged 61) is a partner of the law firm of Icaza, Gonzalez-Ruiz & Aleman, City of Panama, Republic of Panama. He is a Director of Unilar Inc., and has served his country as Ambassador of Panama to the United States of America and as a Member of the Constitution Revision Commission.

Walter Albert Eberstadt (aged 62) is a general partner of Lazard Freres and Co., One Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10020, United States of America. In addition, he is a Director of Transocean Holding Corporation and a Member of the International Capital Markets Committee of the New York Stock Exchange.

Peter Timothy Hart (aged 31) is a manager of and secretary of Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited.

Thorleif Monsen (aged 73) is President of Aall & Company Limited Inc. In addition, he is President of Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd. and a Director of a number of other private companies.

Eric John Sainsbury (aged 50) is Managing Director of Argus Insurance Company Limited, Bermuda, and each of its subsidiaries. He is also a Director of a number of Bermuda Exempted Companies.

Alan Charles Wrigley (aged 37) is a Director of Lazard Securities Limited. In addition, he is a Director of Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd.

Participating Income Shares and Participating Accumulation Shares

The Participating Shares offered for subscription are available to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares. The two classes carry the same rights except in the following respects. The Participating Income Shares carry a right to dividends. The Participating Accumulation Shares carry no right to dividends. Instead, they carry a right to an increased share in the underlying assets of the Fund.

On each Valuation Day a calculation is carried out to determine the proportion of the Fund's assets attributable to the Participating Income Shares and the Participating Accumulation Shares, taking into account any dividends paid to the holders of the Participating Income Shares and alterations in the numbers of shares in issue of each class. This apportionment then forms the basis for calculating the subscription and redemption prices of the two classes of shares and their respective rights to surplus assets on a winding-up. For further details see Appendix A.

صكنا من الاصل

The Diversified Bond Fund Limited — continued

Dividend Policy
Every year the Directors will determine the amount of income available for distribution to meeting management, secretarial, custodian and other expenses. This amount will be apportioned between the Participating Income Shares and the Participating Accumulation Shares on the basis of the apportionment of the underlying assets of the Fund between these two classes of shares.

Substantially all of the amount apportioned to the Participating Income Shares will be distributed to holders of Participating Income Shares by way of half-yearly dividends.

Receipts of the Fund arising in the form of gains on the sale or redemption of securities, including any discounts on securities originally issued at a discount, will not be treated as income.

Dividends will be paid without deduction of tax in the Cayman Islands. The first such dividend will be paid to holders of Participating Income Shares on the register on 30 January 1984.

In current conditions, it is expected that the Fund's portfolio would earn an income yield of approximately 5 per cent. per annum. Recurrent expenses are estimated at 1 per cent. per annum of the value of the Fund, leaving about 4 per cent. per annum to be apportioned between the Participating Income Shares and Participating Accumulation Shares.

Procedure for Subscription
Application should be made on the application form provided and must be for a minimum of 100 Participating Shares.

Each application must be accompanied either by a separate United States dollar cheque or bank's draft for the full amount payable on application. The application should be sent to:

Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited,
PO Box 108, 2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands,
as to arrive not later than 10.00 am on 3 August 1983. Cheques should be made payable to Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited.

On completion and delivery of the application form accompanied by a cheque will constitute a legally enforceable promise that the cheque will be honoured on first presentation. The Fund reserves the right to reject any application in whole or in part in which event the application monies or any balance thereof will be posted to the applicant at his own risk not later than 30 August 1983. Applications will not be acknowledged but certificates for Participating Shares issued will be posted at the applicant's risk not later than 31 August 1983.

Acceptance of applications will be conditional on the Council of The Stock Exchange admitting to the Official List no or before 3 August 1983 the Participating Shares issued and available to be issued. Monies paid in respect of all applications will be returned if such listing is not obtained on or before that date.

Copies of this prospectus, incorporating the application form, may be obtained from:

Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited,
21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT, United Kingdom.
Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited,
PO Box 108, 2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.
Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd.,
The Aall Building, North Church Street, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

Management and Administration

The Manager

Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited ("LSJ") will act as manager of the Fund. As manager LSJ will be responsible to the Directors for managing the business of the Fund. LSJ may be authorised by the Fund in certain circumstances to instruct the custodian to hold the assets of the Fund on trust for the benefit of the Fund's creditors and shareholders rather than to the order of the Fund (see Appendix A).

LSJ is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited which is a registered Jersey bank and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, a major London Accepting House. LSJ manages Lazard Brothers International Income Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers Sterling Reserve Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers International Capital Fund (Cayman) Limited, Lazard Brothers International Asset Fund Limited, The Capital Growth Bond Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers Far Eastern Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers North American Fund Limited and other portfolios, which together have total investments whose value exceeds US \$465 million.

Secretary and Registrar

Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd. ("ATB") will act as the secretary and registrar of the Fund. ATB is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aall & Company Limited Inc., one of the world's largest ship brokers. ATB is a bank licensed and registered under the laws of the Cayman Islands which provides trust, investment and banking services.

Under the provisions of an existing management agreement made between Aall & Company Limited Inc., and Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited provides technical assistance to ATB and two directors to the board of ATB and is entitled to receive a share of the earnings of ATB.

Investment Adviser

Lazard Securities Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, has been appointed investment adviser to LSJ and will provide investment policy guidance and advice.

Lazard Securities Limited is responsible for providing all the investment, management and advisory services offered by Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited. It manages worldwide investments totalling approximately US \$3½ billion for UK and overseas clients, and has considerable experience in the eurobond and other fixed interest markets.

Custodian

Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Jersey Branch ("MGT") will act as custodian of the Fund. All of the assets of the Fund will be held by MGT or to its order. MGT may appoint sub-custodians, nominees and agents to perform its duties or discretions provided that MGT remains liable for any acts or omissions of, or loss directly or indirectly caused by, any such persons. Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited will act as nominee of MGT to hold certain of the Fund's investments to the order of the custodian.

LSJ, ATB, Lazard Securities Limited and MGT were appointed under the agreements referred to in paragraph 6 of Appendix D.

Charges and Fees

LSJ

In respect of its services as manager LSJ will receive from the Fund a quarterly fee of a three-hundredths part of one per cent. of the average of the values of the net assets of the Fund as at each Valuation Day during the relevant quarter (which valuation will be calculated in accordance with the provisions in the Articles of Association for determining the subscription price of Participating Shares).

LSJ will make no initial charge to investors in respect of Participating Shares to be allotted on 8 August 1983 but on subsequent issues it may retain for its own benefit an initial charge of up to three per cent. of the subscription price of the Participating Shares plus the amount necessary to round up the subscription price of each Participating Share to the nearest whole cent.

In secondary market transactions members of the Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited group ("the Lazard group") will make no charges, commission or dealing profit on transactions with the Fund. Where any member of the Lazard group participates in the underwriting and/or placement of new issues of securities and subsequently such securities are sold to the Fund by any member of the Lazard group, any placement discounts earned in respect of the placement of the issue will generally be passed on to the Fund, but any underwriting fees will generally be retained by the relevant member of the Lazard group.

The investment adviser, Lazard Securities Limited, will receive fees. Those will not be borne by the Fund but will be paid by LSJ out of its own fees.

ATB

ATB will receive from the Fund a quarterly fee of a one thirty-second part of one per cent. of the average of the values of the net assets of the Fund (calculated as in the case of LSJ's fee). This fee will be reduced, on a sliding scale, where the average of the net asset values of the Fund exceeds US \$40 million. On the first US \$10 million in excess of US \$40 million, the percentage calculation of ATB's quarterly fee will be reduced by one-half (to a one sixteenth part of one per cent.). On the next US \$10 million or any excess the percentage calculation will be further reduced to a one one-hundred-and-twenty-eighth part of one per cent. On any excess over US \$60 million the percentage calculation of ATB's fee will be reduced to a one two-hundred-and-fifty-sixth part of one per cent.

MGT

In respect of its services as custodian MGT will receive from the Fund a quarterly fee of a one thirty-second part of one per cent. of the average of the values of the net assets of the Fund (calculated as to the case of LSJ's fee). This fee will be reduced on a sliding scale where the average of the net asset values exceeds US \$40 million (in the same manner as ATB's fee). MGT will meet any expenses or fees of its sub-custodians, nominees and agents, including Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, out of its remuneration.

Other Expenses

The Fund will be responsible for certain expenses as specified in the registrar and secretarial, custodian and management agreements such as audit fees, stamp and other duties and charges incurred on the acquisition and realisation of investments with the initial issue of Participating Shares formation expenses and all expenses in connection with the initial issue of Participating Shares and the obtaining of the listing of the Participating Shares on The Stock Exchange (other than those specified in paragraph 2 of Appendix D) these expenses being amortised over a period of five years from the dates on which they were incurred. LSJ, ATB and MGT will meet all other expenses incurred by them in connection with their services.

Taxation

Application has been made to the Governor-in-Council of the Cayman Islands for an undertaking that the Fund will not be chargeable to tax in the Cayman Islands on its income or its capital gains arising in the Cayman Islands or elsewhere for a period of twenty years, or Dividends of the Fund will be payable without deduction of tax to shareholders resident in or outside the Cayman Islands. No stamp duty is levied in the Cayman Islands on the transfer or redemption of Participating Shares in the Fund. The only tax which will be chargeable on the Fund in the Cayman Islands is an annual charge calculated on the nominal amount of the Fund which, at current rates, will not exceed approximately US \$1,465 in any year.

It is intended that the Fund will not be resident in the United Kingdom for taxation purposes. The Jersey Comptroller of Income Tax has confirmed that he is satisfied that the proposed manner of management and control of the Fund, and the performance by LSJ of its duties under the management agreement, are such that the Fund will not be or become liable to tax under Jersey law.

The investments of the Fund will be made in such a way as to seek to minimise tax of other countries deductible at source or withheld from any income or capital receipts of the Fund on its investments.

Investors in the United Kingdom

Holders of Participating Shares who are resident in the United Kingdom for tax purposes will, depending on their individual circumstances, be liable to United Kingdom income tax or corporation tax on dividends paid by the Fund. Holders (other than those holding shares as dealing stock who are subject to different rules), who are resident or ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, may be liable to United Kingdom capital gains tax or corporation tax in respect of gains arising from the disposal or redemption of Participating Shares.

Clearance under section 464 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 (cancellation of tax advantages from certain transactions in securities) has been given by the United Kingdom Board of Inland Revenue in relation to (inter alia):

- a. the issue of the Unclassified Shares of the Fund as Participating Shares or as Nominal Shares;
- b. the subsequent redemption by the Fund of Participating Shares and Nominal Shares.

The attention of individuals ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom is drawn to section 478 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, as amended, and to section 45 of the Finance Act 1981 which may, in certain circumstances, render them liable to United Kingdom income tax in respect of income of the Fund.

The first United Kingdom Finance Bill of 1983 (as originally introduced) contained provisions concerning the taxation of international business. The present government has indicated that those provisions will not be introduced before 1984. If provisions of the same or similar nature eventually become law, companies resident for tax purposes in the United Kingdom having a sufficient interest in the Fund could in certain circumstances be chargeable to United Kingdom corporation tax in respect of the Fund's income.

Investors in Jersey

The attention of Jersey residents is drawn to Article 134A of the Income Tax (Jersey) Law, 1961, which may render a shareholder so resident liable to income tax on undistributed income and profits of the Fund. The Fund has undertaken to deduct Jersey income tax at source from any dividends paid to Jersey residents and to account for such tax to the Comptroller of Income Tax in Jersey.

The foregoing is based on the law and practice currently in force in the Cayman Islands, the United Kingdom and Jersey, and is subject to changes therein. However, investors in any jurisdiction should consult their professional advisers on the possible tax, exchange control or other consequences of buying, holding, selling or redeeming Participating Shares under the laws of their country of citizenship, residence or domicile.

Redemption of Participating Shares

Participating Shares may, except where there is a suspension of the valuation of assets (see below), be redeemed on any Subscription Day at the redemption price. LSJ may elect to purchase at a price not less than the redemption price any Participating Shares presented for redemption. The redemption price per Participating Share is determined in accordance with the Articles of Association. In summary, it is determined by assessing the value of the net assets of the Fund on the relevant Valuation Day, deducting the paid-up capital on Nominal and Management Shares in issue and a provision for duties and charges payable on a deemed realisation of the whole of the Fund's portfolio, ascertaining the proportion of that amount that is attributable to each class of Participating Share, and dividing the amount of the respective proportions so ascertained by the total number of Participating Shares of the relevant class in issue and deemed to be in issue. The resulting figure is adjusted downwards to the nearest whole cent (the amount necessary to effect such downward adjustment being payable to LSJ for its absolute use and benefit).

To redeem all or part of his holding, a shareholder should complete the form on the back of each share certificate and send the certificate to LSJ. In order to qualify for redemption on a particular Subscription Day, instructions should be received not later than 3.30 pm on the immediately preceding business day. Requests for redemption received late may be held over until the next Subscription Day.

Requests for redemption once made may be withdrawn only in the event of a suspension of the valuation of the Fund's assets.

Any amount payable to a shareholder in connection with requests for redemption will be paid by dollar cheque and will be posted to the shareholder (or for amounts in excess of US \$20,000 cabled or teleaxed to a bank at the shareholder's request and expense) within five business days after the later of the date on which the redemption (or purchase) takes effect and the date of receipt of a duly endorsed certificate for the Shares to be redeemed or purchased.

The Fund shall not be bound to redeem on any one Subscription Day more than one-eighth of the total number of Participating Shares then in issue.

If at any time after the fifth anniversary of the incorporation of the Fund the value of the Fund's net assets shall, on each Subscription Day within a period of 26 consecutive weeks, be less than US \$1,000,000 the Fund may redeem all the Participating Shares then in issue at the ruling redemption price.

Accounts and Reports

The Fund's first financial period will end on the last Valuation Day in July 1984. Subsequent financial periods will end on the last Valuation Day in July of each succeeding year. Copies of the audited accounts of the Fund for a financial period will be sent to shareholders at their registered address normally during the following September. Shareholders will also be sent half-yearly reports relating to the Fund normally during March in each year.

Subscription and Valuation Days

Subscription Days will normally be every Wednesday, or if that day is not a business day the next following business day, or such other day as may from time to time be determined by the Directors. The first Subscription Day after the initial issue of Participating Shares will be 10 August 1983.

After the initial issue, the net assets of the Fund will be valued on each Valuation Day which will normally be the business day immediately preceding the day before each Subscription Day. However, the Directors may suspend valuation if, in their opinion, it is not reasonably practicable for the Fund to dispose of investments or fairly to determine the value of net assets, or if a breakdown occurs in any of the means normally employed to ascertain such value.

Valuations

The Articles of Association provide that eurobonds are generally to be valued at prices quoted at noon on the day before the relevant Valuation Day in the over-the-counter market in London, and quoted securities generally at closing market prices on the day before the relevant Valuation Day. The market value of treasury bills, bank acceptances, trade bills and certificates of deposit will be determined at noon on the relevant Valuation Day. Other unquoted investments will be valued at Directors' valuation, including any discount which the Directors think appropriate to reflect their true current value. All valuations of interest-bearing assets will include interest accruing up to the Valuation Day in question.

Underlying Companies

The Articles of Association of the Fund allow it to hold investments through the medium of one or more companies, trusts or other legal entities (termed "underlying companies") which would be wholly owned by the Fund. The Directors of the Fund may establish such an underlying company for the purpose of holding all or part of the investments of the Fund if they consider this to be in the interests of shareholders. For the purpose of determining the value of the net assets of the Fund, the Fund and any underlying company will be valued on a consolidated basis.

Publication of Prices of Participating Shares

The quotations for Participating Shares on The Stock Exchange will appear in The Stock Exchange Daily Official List. The manager will also arrange for the Financial Times to publish daily in the "Offshore and Overseas Funds" section the prices for the Participating Shares.

Further Information

Further information is contained in the following Appendices:

- A Share Capital and Rights
- B Auditors' Report
- C Articles of Association — Directors
- D General Information
- E Documents available for inspection

APPENDIX A

Share Capital and Rights

The authorised share capital of the Fund is US \$300,000, divided into 10,000 Management Shares of US \$1 each and 29,000,000 Unclassified Shares of 1 cent (US) each. The Unclassified Shares may be issued as Participating Income Shares, Participating Accumulation Shares or Nominal Shares. At the date hereon all Participating Shares or Nominal Shares have been issued, 1,000 Management Shares have been issued for cash at par. It is intended that those Management Shares will be acquired by LSJ.

Management Shares

The Management Shares have been created in order that Participating Shares may be issued. (Under the laws of the Cayman Islands, the Participating Shares, to be redeemable, have to be preference shares, the Participating Shares have a preference over some other class of share capital.) The Management Shares each carry one vote on a poll, do not carry any right to dividends and, in a winding-up, rank only for a return of paid up capital (after the return of nominal capital paid up on Participating Shares and Nominal Shares).

Participating Shares

The Participating Income Shares carry a right to dividends declared by the Fund in general meeting or resolved in a meeting of the Directors. The Participating Accumulation Shares carry no right to dividends. Instead they have a right to an increased share in the assets of the Fund.

Under the Articles of Association of the Fund the proportion of the net assets of the Fund that is attributable to the Participating Income Shares in aggregate and to the Participating Accumulation Shares in aggregate is determined as follows:

- 1 Each Participating Income Share is treated as representing one undivided share in the Fund's net assets.
- 2 Each Participating Accumulation Share comprised in the initial issue of Participating Accumulation Shares is treated, upon issue, as one undivided share in the Fund's net assets.
- 3 Each Participating Accumulation Share issued after the initial issue of Participating Accumulation Shares is treated as representing, upon issue, the same number (including fractions) of undivided shares in the Fund's net assets as each Participating Accumulation Share then in issue.
- 4 On each occasion when Participating Accumulation Shares are in issue or deemed to be in issue and a dividend is declared in respect of the Participating Income Shares, the number (including fractions) of undivided shares in the Fund's net assets represented by each Participating Accumulation Share is treated as increased to such extent (so nearly as may be without involving a fraction smaller than one ten-thousandth part of an undivided share) that the minimum price at which a Participating Accumulation Share may be issued (which is based on the value of the net assets of the Fund) shall remain unchanged, notwithstanding the declaration of the dividend in respect of the Participating Income Shares which reduces the value of the Fund's net assets.
- 5 The proportion of the Fund's net assets attributable to the aggregate of either Participating Income Shares or Participating Accumulation Shares is the proportion of the net assets of the Fund as the total number of undivided shares represented by the Participating Shares of the particular class in question bears to the total number of undivided shares represented by all Participating Shares.

Each holder of Participating Shares will be entitled, on a poll, to one vote for each Participating Share held. In a winding-up, each Participating Share carries a right to a return of the nominal capital paid up in respect of such share in priority to the repayment of the nominal amounts paid up on Nominal and Management Shares. After the return of the nominal capital paid up on Nominal and Management Shares any surplus assets will be apportioned between the Participating Income Shares and Participating Accumulation Shares according to their respective interests in the net assets.

All Participating Shares not previously redeemed will be redeemed by the Fund on 31 December 2002 or if that day is not a business day on the next following business day, at the redemption price on the day in question.

LSJ as manager is empowered under the Articles of Association to require the transfer or redemption of any Participating Share which is owned directly or beneficially by any person in breach of any law or requirement of any country or government authority by virtue of which such person is not qualified to hold such Participating Share.

Further Issues of Participating Shares

The Articles of Association provide that, after the initial issue of Participating Shares, and except when there is a suspension of the valuation of the Fund's assets, further Participating Shares of each class may be issued on Subscription Days at a price per Participating Share of not less than that determined by assessing the value of the Fund's net assets on the relevant Valuation Day, deducting the paid-up capital on the Nominal and Management Shares in issue, adding a provision for duties and charges payable on a deemed acquisition of the whole of the Fund's portfolio, ascertaining the proportion of that amount attributable to each class of Participating Share, and dividing the amount of the respective proportions so ascertained by the total number of Participating Shares of the relevant class in issue and deemed to be in issue. The price per Participating Share so calculated may then be increased by a manager's fee of an amount not exceeding three per cent. of such price plus the amount necessary in round up the resulting sum to the nearest whole cent.

Nominal Shares

The Nominal Shares can only be issued at par and only for the purpose of providing funds for the repayment of the nominal amount of Participating Shares which they will be issued only to LSJ as manager. They carry no right to dividends. In a winding-up, they carry the right to repayment of nominal capital paid up in priority to repayment of nominal capital paid up on the Management Shares. Each holder of Nominal Shares is entitled, on a poll, to one vote in respect of all the Nominal Shares held by him.

LSJ is obliged to subscribe for Nominal Shares for cash at par when Participating Shares are redeemed, unless the Directors decide that the nominal amount of such Participating Shares is to be redeemed out of profits. Nominal Shares may, at the option of LSJ and by payment of the appropriate sum to the Fund, be converted into Participating Shares of the relevant class for sale to investors.

Variation of Rights

The rights attached to any class of shares may, subject to the laws of the Cayman Islands or unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class, be varied or abrogated with the consent in writing of the holders of three-quarters of the issued shares of that class or with the sanction of a resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the shares of the class by a majority of three-quarters of the votes cast at that meeting. For these purposes, the Directors may treat all the classes of Participating Shares as forming one class if they consider that all such classes would be affected in the same way by the proposed variation or abrogation and in every other case each class of Participating Shares shall be treated as a separate class. The rights attached to the Participating Shares are deemed to be varied by any variation of the rights attached to shares of any other class or by the creation or issue of any shares other than Participating Shares ranking pari passu with them as respects dividend rights and rights in a winding-up and on a reduction of capital. Subject to the above, the rights conferred on the holders of any shares issued with preferred or other rights shall, unless otherwise expressly provided by the conditions of issue of such shares, be deemed not to be varied by the creation or issue of further shares ranking in any respect pari passu with them.

Safeguarding the interests of shareholders

The Fund has given to the manager power in certain circumstances to instruct the custodian to cease to hold the Fund's assets to the Fund's order and instead to hold those assets on trust (hereby) to discharge all liabilities of the Fund to creditors and to distribute any surplus remaining to shareholders on terms similar to the rights of shareholders under the Articles of Association of the Fund. This procedure is designed to safeguard the interests of shareholders and creditors and would be implemented only if the manager considered it to be desirable for any reason to safeguard these interests. The intention is that, on instructions being given by the manager to the custodian, shareholders' rights in the Fund would be valueless but shareholders would become beneficiaries under the trust to distribute the assets held by the custodian. As an alternative to the distribution of the assets of the Fund by the custodian, provision has been made to allow those assets to be transferred by the custodian to a new company in exchange for an issue of shares in that new company to shareholders of the Fund. This alternative may be implemented only with the sanction of a resolution passed at a meeting convened at the discretion of the custodian by a majority of 75 per cent. of the shareholders present in person or by proxy.

APPENDIX B

Auditors' Report

The following is a copy of reports addressed to the Directors of the Fund by Coopers & Lybrand in the Cayman Islands and in Jersey, the joint Auditors of the Fund:

To the Directors,
The Diversified Bond Fund Limited,
19 July 1983.

Dear Sirs,

The Diversified Bond Fund Limited ("the Fund") was incorporated on 14 July 1983. The Fund has not commenced trading and no accounts for the Fund have been made up and no dividends have been declared or paid.

Yours faithfully,

Coopers & Lybrand, Jersey, Channel Islands
Coopers & Lybrand, Cayman Islands.

APPENDIX C

The Articles of Association — Directors

The Articles of Association contain provisions relating to Directors (inter alia) as follows:

- 1 A Director may act in a professional capacity for the Fund (other than as Auditor) and may receive remuneration for such professional services. A Director may also hold other office or place of profit with the Fund (other than the office of Auditor) and may be a director, officer or member of any company in which the Fund may be interested.
- 2 A Director may contract with the Fund and on contract or arrangement made by the Fund in which any Director is in any way interested shall be liable to be avoided, but the nature of his interest must be declared at a meeting of the Directors.
- 3 A Director may not normally vote in respect of any contract in which he is materially interested.
- 4 Unless and until otherwise determined from time to time by the Fund in general meeting each Director shall be entitled to such remuneration for his services as the Directors shall from time to time resolve, provided that the aggregate remuneration of all the Directors shall not exceed US \$10,000 in respect of any financial period of the Fund. The Directors may also be remunerated for expenses incurred in connection with the business of the Fund and may receive remuneration for special services. However, Directors of the Fund who are also employees or directors of any company in the Lazard group will receive no remuneration.
- 5 The Directors may exercise the powers of the Fund to borrow subject to the limitations referred to in paragraph 12 of Appendix D.
- 6 There is no share qualification for Directors.
- 7 There is no age limit for Directors.
- 8 A Director may be removed at any time by ordinary resolution of the Fund in general meeting.

APPENDIX D

General Information

- 1 The Constitution of the Fund is defined in its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Its registered office is at The Aall Building, North Church Street, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, British West Indies.
- 2 The expenses incurred in the formation of the Fund are estimated to amount to US \$10,000 which will be paid by the Fund. The expenses incurred in connection with the initial issue of Participating Shares and obtaining The Stock Exchange listing (including the fees of legal, accountancy and financial advisory, printing and advertising costs and The Stock Exchange listing fee) are estimated to amount to US \$150,000. US \$40,000 of this will be paid by LSJ and the balance will be paid by the Fund. The expenses to be borne by the Fund will be amortised over a period of five years from the dates on which they are incurred, and will be charged against income.
- 3 The Fund is not engaged in any litigation or arbitration or any litigation or claim known to the Directors to be pending or threatened against the Fund.
- 4 LSJ may at its discretion pay out of its management fee a commission to agents in respect of the amount of subscriptions procured by such agents.
- 5 There are no existing or proposed service contracts between any of the Directors and the Fund, but the Directors may receive remuneration as provided in the Articles of Association (see Appendix C). It is estimated that the Directors' remuneration in aggregate will not exceed US \$10,000 in the Fund's first financial period.
- 6 The following contracts, which are or may be material, have been entered into otherwise than in the ordinary course of business:
 - a. management agreement between (1) the Fund and (2) LSJ dated 21 July 1983, whereby LSJ has agreed to manage the business of the Fund;
 - b. registrar and secretarial agreement between (1) the Fund and (2) ATB dated 21 July 1983, whereby ATB has agreed to act as the registrar and secretary of the Fund;
 - c. custodian agreement between (1) the Fund, (2) LSJ and (3) MGT dated 21 July 1983, whereby MGT has agreed to act as custodian of the assets of the Fund;
 - d. investment advisory agreement between (1) the Fund, (2) LSJ and (3) Lazard Securities Limited dated 21 July 1983, whereby Lazard Securities Limited has agreed to provide investment advice to LSJ;
 - e. power of attorney executed under seal by the Fund dated 21 July 1983, whereby LSJ has been appointed attorney of the Fund with power in certain circumstances to instruct the custodian to hold the assets of the Fund other than to the order of the Fund in order to safeguard the interests of creditors and shareholders of the Fund.
- 7 The Fund has not commenced business and has not established and does not intend to establish a place of business in Great Britain. The Fund does not have any subsidiaries.
- 8 The minimum amount which in the opinion of the Directors must be raised by the initial issue of Participating Shares in order to provide the means referred to in paragraph 4 of the Fourth Schedule in the Companies Act 1948 (Great Britain) is US \$1,000,000 to be applied as follows:
 - a. purchase price of property, nil;
 - b. preliminary expenses (including expenses in connection with the initial issue), to the extent incurred and payable by the Fund, US \$120,000;
 - c. repayment of monies borrowed for preliminary expenses, nil;
 - d. working capital, US \$880,000.
- 9 Coopers & Lybrand in the Cayman Islands and in Jersey have each given and have not withdrawn their written consent to the issue of this prospectus with the inclusion therein of their report in the form and context in which it is included.
- 10 This prospectus shall have the effect, where an application is made in pursuance thereof, of rendering all persons concerned bound by the provisions (other than penal provisions) of sections 50 and 51 of the Companies Act 1948 (Great Britain) so far as applicable.
- 11 Persons interested in acquiring Participating Shares in the Fund should inform themselves as to (a) the legal requirements within the countries of their nationality, residence or domicile for such acquisition (b) any foreign exchange restriction or exchange control requirements which they might encounter on acquisition or disposal of Participating Shares and (c) the income tax and any other tax consequences which might be relevant to the acquisition, holding or disposal of Participating Shares.
- 12 The Directors may exercise the powers of the Fund to borrow but borrowings of the Fund and its subsidiaries (if any) may not, without the consent of the Fund in general meeting, exceed one-quarter of the share capital and undivided reserves as defined in the Fund's Articles of Association. Although the Directors do not anticipate that any borrowings will be made, they intend to negotiate standby borrowing facilities for use in exceptional or unforeseen circumstances. Save as disclosed herein, the Fund does not have any debentures, loan capital, borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing, bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, mortgages, charges, hire-purchase commitments, guarantees or other material contingent liabilities. Normal banking transactions will from time to time be carried out through Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited or its subsidiaries upon normal terms.
- 13 The Directors of LSJ are:
 - Mr. V. Wylie of Ewhurst Manor, Partridge Green, near Horsham, Sussex, United Kingdom (Chairman).
 - Mr. K. Stevenson of La Passerelle, Rue de la Pierre, Montclair, St. Lawrence, Jersey, Channel Islands (Deputy Chairman).
 - Mr. T. H. Allan of 10 Ambleside, Epping, Essex, United Kingdom.
 - Hon. Mr. D. A. Benson of 34 St. John's Avenue, London SW15, United Kingdom.
 - Mr. D. H. Bushell of Pierre Perce Lodge, Ruette Braye, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands.
 - Mr. J. C. Fielden of Home Farm, Colchester, Colchester, Suffolk, United Kingdom.
 - Mr. J. M. Robertson of 4 La Grande Médée, Faurie, Grandville, Jersey, Channel Islands.
 - Mr. S. J. Scrimgeour of La Tourelle, L'Etang, St. Ouen, Jersey, Channel Islands.
 - Mr. L. R. Swindale of Hillcrest, Les Landes Avenue, St. Brélade, Jersey, Channel Islands.
 - Advocate M. G. Voinin of Clos de la Blanche Pierre, St. Lawrence, Jersey, Channel Islands.
- 14 Mr. T. H. Allan, Mr. M. D. A. Benson, Mr. R. J. Fielden and Mr. V. Wylie are also

American notebook

Inflation floodgates ajar

While White House officials congratulated themselves on the speed of economic recovery during the second quarter, they are bound to be giving some thought to the question: Can we skate through 1984 without a big financial crisis? Time and again, the Administration and the Federal Reserve have been warned that the wildly expansionary policy of the Federal Reserve since the middle of last year could lead to a much stronger recovery than the Administration expected; or a rise in interest rates back to crisis levels; or a crisis of monetary policy. Two events last week made the last two of these predictions more likely to take place. First, the decision by the Federal Reserve to make the second quarter of this year the new base, from which further growth in M1 will be measured and on which the 5-9 per cent target growth for M1 will be measured. Secondly, the extraordinary 8.7 per cent annual growth rate of real GNP in the second quarter and, the even more extraordinary, 10 per cent annual growth of personal consumption in that period. The United States economy is on a path of unsustainable economic growth.

ICI to report good interims, analysts agree

The big benefit has been derived from sterling's fall against the Deutsche mark - the currency in which the chemical industry prices contracts - so gains in this area range from £20m to £30m. The rationalization programme has done much to bump up ICI figures. American buyers have been pulled in a big way, and more than 8 per cent of the company's stock is now US-owned.

The difficulty facing the banks on the domestic front is the stubborn increase in bank-ratios, despite the faltering signs of an upturn in the economy. The debt troubles of Third World countries, such as Brazil, Nigeria and Venezuela, and of Poland are well documented. The banks had been hoping for a 15 per cent to 17 per cent drop in British bad-debt provisions but this has not materialized. The importance to profits is shown by the better share performance of NatWest which has the lowest exposure to the world's problem areas. The other important factor is interest rates. Base rates have averaged out at around 10.5 per cent during the first half against 13.5 per cent a year earlier, and this has cut some high margin earnings. Money market rates have often moved higher than base rates for short periods and this is also thought to hit profitability. So shareholders are unlikely to see the same rate of increase in dividends as they have over preceding years. Last year there were rises of 15 per cent to 20 per cent, so analysts are expecting that rate to be cut to around 10 per cent this year. Midland is proving the most interesting because of cost-cutting at a time when the other three were recruiting more staff.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Trade pendulum swings again

Tomorrow's trade figures for June are likely to provide the chief focus of interest this week. In the first five months of the year, Britain ran a current account surplus on the balance of payments of only £33m, compared with a Budget forecast of £1,500m and a surplus last year of £4,000m. The Treasury's economic forecast last November predicted the current account in balance in 1983, but its economists were persuaded to revise the forecast upwards after a surprisingly good trade performance at the end of last year. Their unpublished summer forecast, however, is thought to show the current account in small deficit. Import penetration has been increasing rapidly as companies have begun to replace and rebuild stocks, while exports have remained little changed since the beginning of the year.

Independent forecasters have, like the Treasury, been revising their forecasts down. The other main concern of the financial markets will be the trend of interest rates in the United States. The picture is a mixed one. Low inflation and Mr Volker's statement last week that the overshoot in the narrow money measure, M1, would not be recouped, suggest interest rates should stay where they are, if not fall. But the booming real economy has raised hard-pressed fears that the long awaited credit crunch between the burgeoning credit demands of the federal government and a reiving private sector cannot be too far off. Other indicators out this week include second quarter brick and cement production and first quarter institutional investment, both today; the Department of Employment's Gazette on Wednesday; and May overseas travel and tourism on Thursday.

The Diversified Bond Fund Limited - continued

- (i) with the exception of the Management Shares, no shares, debentures or other capital of the Fund have been issued or agreed to be issued, fully or partly paid up, in cash or otherwise than in cash, nor is any such capital under option, or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be put under option; (ii) save as disclosed in paragraph 4 of Appendix C and in paragraph 13 of this Appendix, no Director has had any interest in the promotion of the Fund or no Director has had any interest, direct or indirect, in any property or assets acquired or disposed of by or leased to the Fund or proposed to be acquired, disposed of by or leased to the Fund; (iii) save as disclosed in paragraph 13 of this Appendix, no Director has had a material interest in any contract or arrangement entered into by the Fund which is significant in relation to the business of the Fund; (iv) no Director has any current intention to apply for any shares in the Fund; (v) the Directors are not aware of whether there will be any substantial beneficial holdings of Participating Shares in the Fund; (vi) no shares, debentures or other capital of the Fund are proposed to be issued fully or partly paid up otherwise than in cash.

APPENDIX E

- Documents available for inspection Copies of the following documents are available for inspection during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) at the offices of Messrs Lazard Freres & Co., Cayman International Trust Building, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, British West Indies and of Freshfields, Girdhall House, 25 Newgate Street, London EC4A 3DF, United Kingdom, until 8 August 1983: a. The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Fund. b. The Companies Law, Cap. 22 as amended of the Cayman Islands, under which the Fund was incorporated. c. The contracts referred to in paragraph 6 of Appendix D. d. The report and consent of Cooper & Lybrand in the Cayman Islands and in Jersey.

Application Form

This application form, when completed should be forwarded to: Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited, PO Box 108, 24 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands to arrive not later than 10.00 am on 3 August 1983. A separate cheque or banker's draft for the full amount payable should accompany each application. All cheques will be presented for payment.

The Diversified Bond Fund Limited

An exempted company incorporated on 14 July 1983 with limited liability under the provisions of the Companies Law, Cap. 22 as amended of the Cayman Islands. Issue of up to 25,000,000 Participating Redeemable Preference Shares of 1 cent (US) each ("Participating Shares") at US \$10 per share payable in full on application. Participating Shares are available to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares.

Table with 2 columns: Number of Participating Shares Applied for, Amount enclosed at US \$10 per Participating Share. Rows for Income Shares and Accumulation Shares.

Applications must be for a minimum of 100 shares. To: The Directors, The Diversified Bond Fund Limited ("the Fund") Gentlemen, I/We enclose herewith a cheque/banker's draft made payable to Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited and hereby apply for allotment of Participating Income Shares and Participating Accumulation Shares subject to the Fund's Memorandum and Articles of Association and upon the terms of the Prospectus of the Fund dated 21 July 1983. I/We agree to accept the same or any smaller number of Participating Income Shares or Participating Accumulation Shares in respect of which this application may be accepted. I/We hereby declare that I/we am/are not resident in Jersey for the purposes of the Income Tax (Jersey) Law, 1961 (no applicant unable to make this declaration should delete it, in which case tax will be deducted from all payments of dividends at the standard rate of Jersey income tax for the time being in force). I/We hereby declare that I am not/none of us is a United States person as defined in the Prospectus of the Fund dated 21 July 1983 and that, upon the registration of the Participating Shares hereby applied for in my/our name(s) (or in any other name(s) in which I/we may request) no United States person (as so defined) will be interested in such shares.

Form with fields for Name, Address, Signature, Date for individual and joint applicants. Includes a stamp: 'APPROVED FOR SIGNATURE'.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THE FIRST-NAMED REGISTERED OWNER. A corporation should affix its common seal or execute under the hand of a duly authorized official who should state his representative capacity. Note: All joint applicants must sign this application form.

Eurobonds prices (yields and premiums)

Table with columns: STRAIGHT OBT, Price, YTM, CONVERTIBLE BONDS, Current Yield, Premium.

APPOINTMENTS

New post for L & G executive

Legal and General: Mr Ron Peet, chief executive who will retire next June, will be invited to join the board as a non-executive director. He will be succeeded as group chief executive by Mr T. J. Palmer, general manager (international), who will become deputy group chief executive from January 1.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Beechwood Group: Mr John Downing, chairman of the Welsh-based Beechwood Group, told the annual meeting that he was hopeful of further progress by the civil engineering and well-drilling divisions this year. The chairman said: "Looking back three years, when pre-tax profits fell to just £7,000, Beechwood's future hung in the balance. Since then, despite the worst recession and most difficult trading conditions for half a century, profits increased to £200,000 in 1982 and then to over £400,000 last year. This improvement in the group's fortunes has been largely due to the good performance of the civil engineering division. I am hopeful that this division, and the well-drilling and pump services division, will be able to make further progress this year." Chamberlio & Hill: At the annual meeting of Chamberlin & Hill, the chairman, Mr J. D. Eccles told shareholders that: "Profits for the first quarter of the current year are better than the corresponding period last year. We expect the half-year results to be ahead of the same period last year."

NOTICE TO ENTITLED ACCOUNT HOLDERS OF SEARS OVERSEAS FINANCE NV.

10 1/2% Guaranteed Notes due August 1, 1991. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Temporary Global Note and Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of February 1, 1983, the Final Installment equal to 80% of the Issue Price of each Note (the "Final Installment") is due and payable no later than 3:00 p.m. London time on August 1, 1983. Payments of the Final Installment must be made in U.S. dollars in immediately available funds to EURO-CLEAR at the London office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, N.Y. Payment of the Final Installment made after the August 1, 1983 due date shall be accepted unless accompanied by a further payment representing interest accrued on the amount of each payment at a rate of 13 1/2% per annum calculated from and including August 1, 1983 to but excluding the date of actual payment on the basis of a 360 day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each. The Issuer in its sole and absolute discretion may, at its option, make the Final Installment payable in cash or after August 1, 1983. Unless notified by the Issuer to the contrary, EURO-CLEAR shall have no authority to accept payments on or after August 16, 1983.

SEARS OVERSEAS FINANCE NV. by Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago Fiscal Agent and Paying Agent

U.S. \$42,000,000 Series 005 Short-term guaranteed Notes issued in Series under a U.S. \$280,000,000 Note Purchase Facility by Mount Isa Mines (Coal Finance) Limited.

Notice is hereby given that the above Series of Notes issued under a Production Loan and Credit Agreement dated 30th March, 1983, carry an Interest Rate of 10 1/2% per annum. The Issue Date of the above Series of Notes is 26th July, 1983 and the Maturity Date will be 26th January, 1984. The Euro-clear reference number for this Series is 1834 and the Codel reference number is 509051. Manufacturers Hanover Limited Issue Agent 25th July, 1983.

ARE YOU PAYING TOO MUCH FOR YOUR U.S. COMMODITY BROKERAGE? We charge just \$35 a round turn (any U.S. commodity, any U.S. exchange, any quantity). We give fast fills. And efficient executions with a personal touch. We protect your funds in segregated bank accounts. If you like the idea of minimal brokerage commissions, phone or mail the coupon. FREE. The next six weekly issues of 'The Eastern Letter' (news, charts and expert comments on U.S. commodities), plus our comprehensive brochure.

EASTERN CAPITAL DISCOUNT BROKERS. To: Eastern Capital Ltd, 9 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4HR. Tel: 01-250 0798 (9am-9pm). Please send your free brochure and next 6 issues of 'Eastern Letter'.

WESTLAND plc

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange. WESTLAND plc (Registered in England No. 302832). Placing of £30,000,000 12 1/2% Debenture Stock 2008 at 98 1/2, 124 per cent., payable as to £25 per cent. on 27th July, 1983, and as to the balance by 28th October, 1983. Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the above Stock to be admitted to the Official List. In accordance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange, £3,000,000 of the Stock is available in the market on the date of publication of this advertisement. Particulars of the Stock are available in the Exel Statistical Services and copies may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (excluding Saturdays and public holidays) up to and including 8th August, 1983. J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, 120 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DS. 25th July, 1983. Flows & Pitman, City Gate House, 39-45 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1JA.

SCI FINANCE N.V.

10 1/2% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated Debentures due July 1, 1997. (Convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc.) Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Fiscal and Paying Agency agreement dated as of July 1, 1982 among SCI Finance N.V., SCI Systems, Inc. and Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, under which the 10 1/2% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated Debentures due July 1, 1997 (the "April Debentures") of SCI Finance N.V. were issued, that (i) SCI Systems, Inc. has declared, and will pay on or before July 29, 1983, a 100% Stock Dividend to its Stockholders of record at the close of business on July 15, 1983, and (ii) effective July 15, 1983, the conversion price at which the Debentures are convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc. has been adjusted from US\$18.33 to US\$17.17 per share of Common Stock. Dated: July 20, 1983. SCI SYSTEMS, Inc.

SCI FINANCE N.V.

5% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated Debentures due July 1, 1988. (Convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc.) Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Fiscal and Paying Agency agreement dated as of July 1, 1983 among SCI Finance N.V., SCI Systems, Inc. and Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, under which the 5% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated Debentures due July 1, 1988 (the "July Debentures") of SCI Finance N.V. were issued, that (i) SCI Systems, Inc. has declared, and will pay on or before July 29, 1983, a 100% Stock Dividend to its Stockholders of record at the close of business on July 15, 1983, and (ii) effective July 15, 1983, the conversion price at which the July Debentures are convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc. has been adjusted from US\$69.95 to US\$29.98 per share of Common Stock. Dated: July 20, 1983. SCI SYSTEMS, Inc.

SCI FINANCE N.V.

5% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated Debentures due April 1, 1988. (Convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc.) Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Fiscal and Paying Agency agreement dated as of April 1, 1983 among SCI Finance N.V., SCI Systems, Inc. and Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, under which the 5% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated Debentures due April 1, 1988 (the "April Debentures") of SCI Finance N.V. were issued, that (i) SCI Systems, Inc. has declared, and will pay on or before July 29, 1983, a 100% Stock Dividend to its Stockholders of record at the close of business on July 15, 1983, and (ii) effective July 16, 1983, the conversion price at which the April Debentures are convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc. has been adjusted from US\$40.15 to US\$20.09 per share of Common Stock. Dated: July 20, 1983. SCI SYSTEMS, Inc.

Base Lending Rates

Table with columns: Bank Name, Rate. Includes ARN Bank, Barclays, BCCI, Consolidated Crds, C. Hoare & Co., Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank, Nat Westminster, TSB, Williams & Glyn's.

KONISHIKU PHOTO INDUSTRY CO., LTD.

Notice is hereby given that the 75th Ordinary General Meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Tokyo time on July 15, 1983 at the Hotel New Otani, Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo. The agenda of the meeting is as follows: 1. Approval of the proposed consolidated financial statements for the period from April 1, 1982 to April 30, 1983. 2. Election of Directors. 3. Granting of retirement benefits to retiring Directors. 4. Election of Accounting Auditors. The proposed dividend subject to shareholder's approval will be Yen 2.5 per share, and will be payable on or after July 15, 1983. If you hold shares, please complete the voting card and return it to the Company by July 12, 1983. If you do not, please return the voting card to the Company by July 12, 1983. In this case it will not be necessary to deposit shares or any other documents. The Chair: Masaharu Bank N.A. Ltd., as Secretary. July 1983.

ATHLETICS

Muscle pover failure may cramp Ovett's style in rush for gold

By Pat Butcher

Steve Ovett's world championship medal hopes were severely set back when he dropped out of the 800 metres final of the AAA championships...

ment he said he thought he was capable of something between 1min 43sec and 1min 44sec. Since Ovett also dropped out of the Southern Counties 800 metres final with cramp...

The race did little more than confirm the form of the two men and Graham Williamson did himself no favours by opting to run against Coe...

Crystal Palace results

200 METRES: 1. M Lattery (US), 26.61sec; 2. D Reid, 27.00; 3. C Sharp, 27.04. 400 METRES: 1. J. Clarke (AUS), 45.05sec; 2. E. Carey (US), 45.52; 3. W McCoy (US), 45.56...

(GB all-comers records): 2. J. Howard (US), 22.26; 3. J. Selmon (AUS), 22.28. LONG JUMP: 1. M. Conley (US), 7.82m (25ft 8in); 2. F. Sate, 7.56; 3. D. Brown, 7.52...

100 METRES: 1. C. Smith (US), 10.30sec; 2. A. Wells, 10.34; 3. P. Harrison (AUS), 10.43. 110M HURDLES: 1. T. Campbell (US), 18.41sec; 2. S. Turner (US), 18.56; 3. M. Allen (US), 18.57...

3,000M WALK: 1. O. Smith (AUS), 11min 23.00sec (UK all-comers record); 2. P. Vealy, 11:48.02; 3. R. Miles, 12:25.58. TRIPLE JUMP: 1. M. Conley (US), 16.40 metres; 2. E. MacNeil, 16.10m; 3. V. Smitova, 15.85m...

5,000 METRES: 1. O. Lewis (US), 16.22.70. 10,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 33.30. 20,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 1:08.20. 30,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 1:58.20. 40,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 2:48.20. 50,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 3:38.20. 60,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 4:28.20. 70,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 5:18.20. 80,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 6:08.20. 90,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 6:58.20. 100,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 7:48.20. 110,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 8:38.20. 120,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 9:28.20. 130,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 10:18.20. 140,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 11:08.20. 150,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 11:58.20. 160,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 12:48.20. 170,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 13:38.20. 180,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 14:28.20. 190,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 15:18.20. 200,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 16:08.20.

100 METRES: 1. C. Smith (US), 10.30sec; 2. A. Wells, 10.34; 3. P. Harrison (AUS), 10.43. 110M HURDLES: 1. T. Campbell (US), 18.41sec; 2. S. Turner (US), 18.56; 3. M. Allen (US), 18.57...

3,000M WALK: 1. O. Smith (AUS), 11min 23.00sec (UK all-comers record); 2. P. Vealy, 11:48.02; 3. R. Miles, 12:25.58. TRIPLE JUMP: 1. M. Conley (US), 16.40 metres; 2. E. MacNeil, 16.10m; 3. V. Smitova, 15.85m...

5,000 METRES: 1. O. Lewis (US), 16.22.70. 10,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 33.30. 20,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 1:08.20. 30,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 1:58.20. 40,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 2:48.20. 50,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 3:38.20. 60,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 4:28.20. 70,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 5:18.20. 80,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 6:08.20. 90,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 6:58.20. 100,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 7:48.20. 110,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 8:38.20. 120,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 9:28.20. 130,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 10:18.20. 140,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 11:08.20. 150,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 11:58.20. 160,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 12:48.20. 170,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 13:38.20. 180,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 14:28.20. 190,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 15:18.20. 200,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 16:08.20.

100 METRES: 1. C. Smith (US), 10.30sec; 2. A. Wells, 10.34; 3. P. Harrison (AUS), 10.43. 110M HURDLES: 1. T. Campbell (US), 18.41sec; 2. S. Turner (US), 18.56; 3. M. Allen (US), 18.57...

3,000M WALK: 1. O. Smith (AUS), 11min 23.00sec (UK all-comers record); 2. P. Vealy, 11:48.02; 3. R. Miles, 12:25.58. TRIPLE JUMP: 1. M. Conley (US), 16.40 metres; 2. E. MacNeil, 16.10m; 3. V. Smitova, 15.85m...

5,000 METRES: 1. O. Lewis (US), 16.22.70. 10,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 33.30. 20,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 1:08.20. 30,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 1:58.20. 40,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 2:48.20. 50,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 3:38.20. 60,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 4:28.20. 70,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 5:18.20. 80,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 6:08.20. 90,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 6:58.20. 100,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 7:48.20. 110,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 8:38.20. 120,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 9:28.20. 130,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 10:18.20. 140,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 11:08.20. 150,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 11:58.20. 160,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 12:48.20. 170,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 13:38.20. 180,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 14:28.20. 190,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 15:18.20. 200,000 METRES: 1. M. Conley (US), 16:08.20.

100 METRES: 1. C. Smith (US), 10.30sec; 2. A. Wells, 10.34; 3. P. Harrison (AUS), 10.43. 110M HURDLES: 1. T. Campbell (US), 18.41sec; 2. S. Turner (US), 18.56; 3. M. Allen (US), 18.57...

Yorkshire's old timers lead Sussex a spin and dance

By Alan Ross

Yorkshire beat Sussex by size wickets.

Sussex have pulled some dismal situations out of the bag this summer, but before their biggest crowd of the season at Hove, Ray Illingworth comprehensively out-boxed them.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Yorkshire bowled down someone but only two scorching books for four and six by Alan Wells made the proper noise.

Emburey turns Kent off course

By Richard Streeton

Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Emburey turned Kent off course. Emburey turned Kent off course.

Lancashire show their resilience

By Alan Gibson

Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Lancashire show their resilience. Lancashire show their resilience.

Somerset's romp is a farce

By Alan Gibson

Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

Somerset's romp is a farce. Somerset's romp is a farce.

John Player League

Yorkshire (18) 11 7 2 2 0 0 32

Somerset (9) 9 8 1 1 0 0 28

Essex (10) 10 10 0 0 0 0 30

Derbyshire (2) 2 2 0 0 0 0 4

Nottinghamshire (10) 10 10 0 0 0 0 30

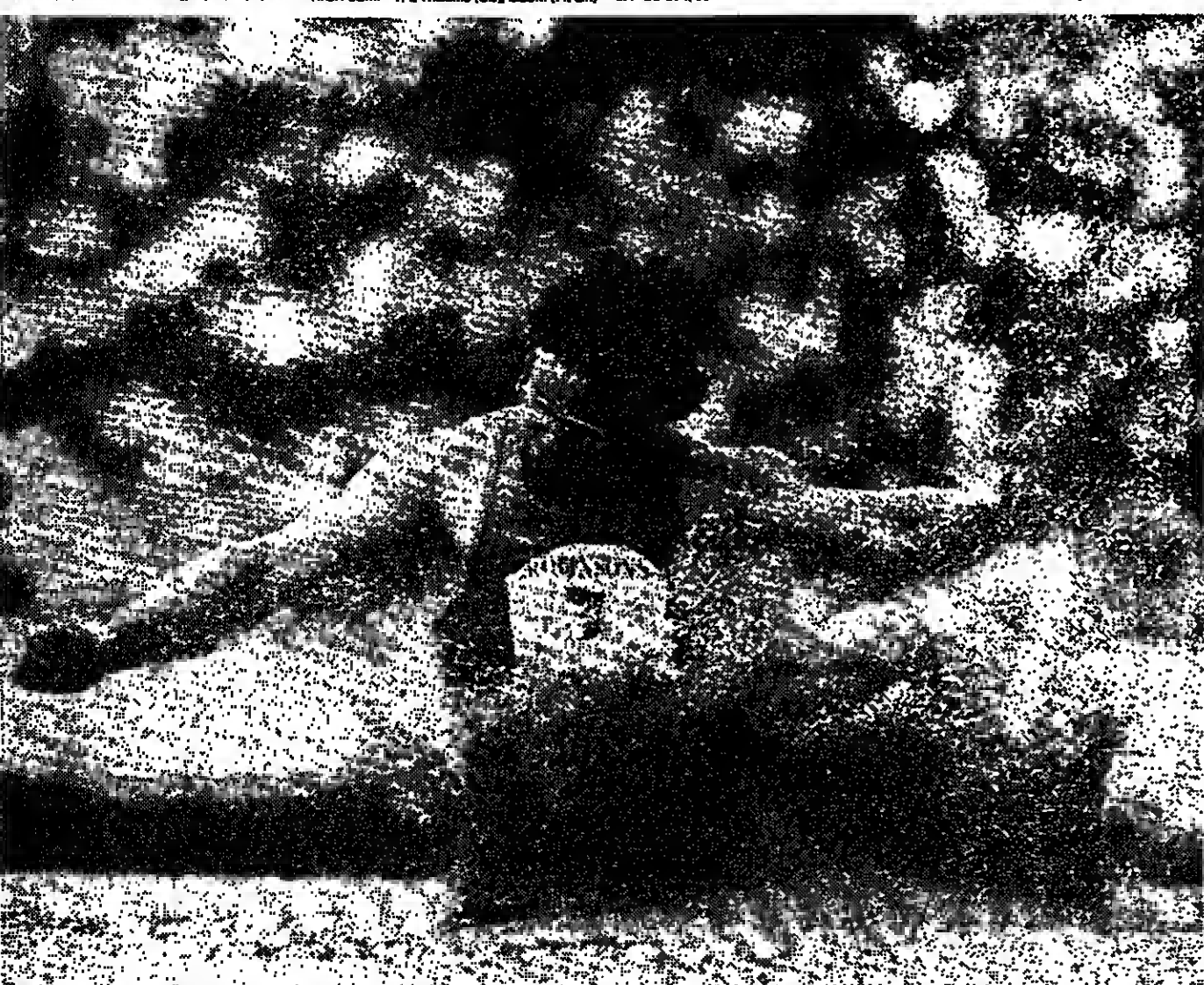
Warwickshire (10) 10 10 0 0 0 0 30

Gloucestershire (10) 10 10 0 0 0 0 30

Worcestershire (10) 10 10 0 0 0 0 30

Leicestershire (10) 10 10 0 0 0 0 30

Northamptonshire (10) 10 10 0 0 0 0 30



Splashdown: Paol Evans makes a soft landing in the long jump final. Photographs by Chris Cole

Windsurfers find their guide 10 years late

By John Nicholls

The Complete Guide to Windsurfing by Jeremy Evans price £7.95 published by Bell & Hyman.

Not that already prudent sailors will not find the book of value. The later chapters were written by experts in their fields - racing by Karl Messner and freestyle by Ken Wilmer - for example, but these disciplines are for those who have already mastered the control of their craft.

For those who really cannot even master the technique of balancing their skittish board, let alone direct

Warning of boycott

Trinidad and Tobago will pull out of the World Masters Games in Puerto Rico in September if South Africa take part.

Everything is explained: the origins of the sport, types of boards, where to do it, how to do it, what to wear and so on. The author and his production team have produced one of the best ever sailing guides.

At the end of a miserable week in which they lost in the NatWest and Benson and Hedges competitions, Essex beat Leicestershire thanks to a powerful substation from Graham Gooch.

At the end of a miserable week in which they lost in the NatWest and Benson and Hedges competitions, Essex beat Leicestershire thanks to a powerful substation from Graham Gooch.

England I win cup

For the second year in succession England I defeated New Zealand by two goals for the Coronation Cup.

England I defeated New Zealand by two goals for the Coronation Cup. England I defeated New Zealand by two goals for the Coronation Cup.

England I defeated New Zealand by two goals for the Coronation Cup. England I defeated New Zealand by two goals for the Coronation Cup.

England I defeated New Zealand by two goals for the Coronation Cup. England I defeated New Zealand by two goals for the Coronation Cup.

Gooch's power puts Essex out of their misery

LEICESTER: Essex (4pts) beat Leicestershire on a faster scoring rate.

At the end of a miserable week in which they lost in the NatWest and Benson and Hedges competitions, Essex beat Leicestershire thanks to a powerful substation from Graham Gooch.

At the end of a miserable week in which they lost in the NatWest and Benson and Hedges competitions, Essex beat Leicestershire thanks to a powerful substation from Graham Gooch.

At the end of a miserable week in which they lost in the NatWest and Benson and Hedges competitions, Essex beat Leicestershire thanks to a powerful substation from Graham Gooch.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or reference.

CRICKET: ENGLAND UNCHANGED; CUP FINAL GIVES VALUE FOR MONEY

Marks is likely to stand down

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Meeting in Oxford on Friday...

There was really no room for manoeuvre. Although Edmonds and Marks made rather a labour of wifing out New Zealand on a...

Middlesex snatch victory from the evening shadows

By John Woodcock
LORDS: Middlesex beat Essex by four runs...

At 187, in the fifty-third over, Turner decided it was time he settled it, once and for all, Hard and at head height, he drove...

Majestic Faldo streaks clear

By Mitchell Plattis
If Nick Faldo was suffering from a hangover after the Open...

At the halfway stage of the tournament Faldo was 1 stroke behind the leader Michael Leeson. Faldo, however, never let the final 36 holes in 126 strokes...

Fignon the cunning artisan comes home a national hero

From John Wilcockson, Paris
When Bernard Hinault withdrew before the start of the Tour de France...

By winning the Tour at his first attempt, Laurent Fignon is hailed as a cyclist who can succeed Hinault as the top man in the sport. Perhaps, this praise is a little premature...

Hardie is wide open to a leg glance as Gatting has him grovelling

By John Woodcock
At 187, in the fifty-third over, Turner decided it was time he settled it, once and for all, Hard and at head height...

At the end of the day Gooch's dismissal could be seen to have been crucial. Having made 46 out of 79 in only 11 overs, and towered above the rest in the way he played...

Hardcastle on song in medley

By Athole Still
Sarah Hardcastle (Borough of Redbridge) finally emerged from the shadow of her more illustrious colleague Jackie Wilson...

Miss Hardcastle's time of 4min. 55.7sec was the fastest by a British swimmer in the 200 metres individual medley...

Good show by Crowe

An unbeaten half-century by Jeff Crowe at Edgbaston on Saturday has probably put an end to any plans to alter the New Zealand batting line-up for the second Test at Hedingley on Thursday...

Pringle, though, and Turner put Essex back on course. At the start of the fifty-second over of 6.20 (the regulations say that the test interval shall be at 4.30 or after 25 overs of the innings of the side batting second...

World Cup King who lives on bar profits

By Peter Ball
The last occasion I saw Collis King was for Worcestershire two months ago. In a thrilling, violent but brief encounter with Gloucestershire at Worcester...

At 187, in the fifty-third over, Turner decided it was time he settled it, once and for all, Hard and at head height, he drove towards the Pavilion...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

Amateur seed a non-starter

Andrew Oldcorn, the Englishman based in Edinburgh, begins his defence of the English amateur championship at Wentworth today...

TENNIS

Czechs put rest of the world's women in shade

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Zurich

Czechoslovakia beat the first and second seeds on consecutive days to win the twenty-first Federation Cup competition, the world team championship for women...

Miss Sukova, aged 18, took two hours and six minutes to win 6-7, 6-2 against Sandy Reynolds. Miss Mandlikova then took two hours and 17 minutes to beat Miss Jaeger...



Miss Sukova: a streaky player

ROWING

The Irish clean up

By Jim Railton

The Irish made a clean sweep of the home countries' rowing at Strathclyde Park on Saturday. For the first time they won the men's, women's and junior men's events...

RUGBY UNION

Lion's tamer puts Natal through hoop

Natal 23 International XV 30 Durban (Reuter) - Bernie Fraser of New Zealand, raser in four tries in his second try for the fifth entry in the second half...

SHOOTING

The policeman from Canada gets his prize

Alain Marion, a French-Canadian policeman, won the Queen's Prize at Balesy on Saturday for the second time...

IN BRIEF

EQUESTRIANISM: David Bromie, the former world champion, won £1,000 for an unplanned hour's work in the Royal International Horse Show at White City on Saturday...

Weekend in Paris for the queen of Ascot

By Michael Seely

Time Charter is now an 8-1 chance to become the seventh filly in the past 11 years to win the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Her devastating sprint past Diamond Shoal and Sun Princess at Ascot on Saturday, made Robert Barnett's four-year-old, the first of her sex to complete the remarkable treble of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes and the Oaks...

The trainer himself is so relaxed that he would make the Sunday Kid a positive bundle of nerves. Time Charter gave Candy a gentle nudge of greeting as he stood proudly but casually by her head. "Hello, old girl," was his only comment. "She is a friendly person, she likes talking to people," he explained yesterday morning...



The power game: Time Charter's strength proves too much even for Piggott

was certainly travelling better than any horse except Time Charter at the time of the mishap. Captain Nicholas Beaumont, the clerk of the course, reported that the two dislodged racing plates were picked up just before the bend into the home straight. The other feature of the day was the victory of Keen in the Granville Maiden Stakes...

Bath

Table of racing results for Bath, including draw advantages, 2.15 Dauntless Stakes, 4.45 Rissington Stakes, 6.20 Iron Blue Stakes, 6.45 Avon Handicap, 8.15 Totipot Credit Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap.

Newcastle

Table of racing results for Newcastle, including 2.30 Wall Auction Stakes, 3.00 Boulmer Handicap, 3.30 Craster Handicap, 4.00 Harry Peacock Handicap, 4.30 Alnmouth Handicap, 5.00 Seahouses Stakes.

Windsor

Table of racing results for Windsor, including 6.20 Iron Blue Stakes, 6.45 Avon Handicap, 8.15 Totipot Credit Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap.

Nottingham

Table of racing results for Nottingham, including 6.00 George and John Gunn Stakes, 7.40 Royal Borough Handicap, 8.15 Totipot Credit Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap.

Masarika proves too good for Superlative

From Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent

The Aga Khan's brilliant Masarika confirmed her position as France's leading two-year-old in taking the Prix Robert Papin at Maisons-Laffitte for a comfortable half a length from the English colt, Superlative. Lester Piggott was two and a half lengths away third on Herifa and then came Ruby Green who was six lengths in front of the Canadian filly, Elegant Act.

Masarika came through to take the lead just over a furlong from home and then began to ride Superlative kept up the gallop. Yves Saint-Martin shook his partner up with a few slaps of the whip before his mount went on to win slightly more comfortably than the official half a length distance suggested.

Kinane switch pays on Jester

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

Michael Kinane who had expected to be riding Carlingford in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot on Saturday found himself replaced overnight by Greville Starkey. Kinane instead rode at Phoenix Park and while Carlingford Castle finished sixth, he still a little green. Kinane won the Grand 3 Baroda Stud Seven Springs Sprint on Jester. This comprehensive win by Jester proved once again that the English sprinters are in a different class this season to their Irish counterparts.

Newcastle

Table of racing results for Newcastle, including 2.30 Wall Auction Stakes, 3.00 Boulmer Handicap, 3.30 Craster Handicap, 4.00 Harry Peacock Handicap, 4.30 Alnmouth Handicap, 5.00 Seahouses Stakes.

Windsor

Table of racing results for Windsor, including 6.20 Iron Blue Stakes, 6.45 Avon Handicap, 8.15 Totipot Credit Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap.

Nottingham

Table of racing results for Nottingham, including 6.00 George and John Gunn Stakes, 7.40 Royal Borough Handicap, 8.15 Totipot Credit Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap, 8.45 Avon Handicap.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring the word 'SECRETARY' and 'MANAGING' in large letters, along with other text and graphics.

